FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DAILY REPORT

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ORIGINAL

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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PALESTINIANS CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY FOR OPERATIONS IN ISRAEL

JN181917Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] The Palestinian revolutionaries continue their bold operations against the vital targets and installations of the enemy, inflicting heavy material and human losses. Our revolutionaries have detonated explosive charges in the industrial area inside the port of Haifa, which resulted in burning and damaging most of the buildings, the warehouses and supply stores. Preliminary losses were estimated at millions of pounds. Our revolutionaries also destroyed the paper warehouses in the street of (?Eti Shan in Beni Trag), in Tel Aviv, leading to the damage of the contents of the warehouses, cracking the walls and destroying most of the equipment. In addition to this, a number of the enemy were seriously wounded following the explosion of a mine planted by our revolutionaries in the area of the Zionist water company (?Metrot) to the north of the city of Elat.

These operations were reported in three military statements issued today by the military spokesman of the general command of the Palestinian revolution forces.

Regarding the first operation, the military spokesman said: One of our special groups on the evening of 15 May, the 30th anniversary of the usurpation of our homeland Palestine, managed to reach a specified target in the region of (?Al-Mushrash) inside the port of Haifa, despite all security measures and precautions taken by the Zionist authorities. The group then placed timed, highly explosive charges inside the specified targets. These charges went off consecutively at 2205 with a loud explosion, and then fire broke out inside most targets. The workshops of (?Aleksn) were burned, the supply stores were burned and destroyed, and the warehouses for the electric power company and for agricultural machinery were burned.

The Zionist fire-engines which rushed to the area of (?Al-Misrak) from Haifa and Acre managed to prevent the spread of fire to other warehouses in the area. Fighting the fire continued until 1015, 16 May. Seven Zionist firemen were injured while trying to put out the fire.

The enemy radio admitted the operation and said that the Zionist security men had arrested all the Palestinian citizens who happened to be in the area for interrogation. Moreover, a Zionist spokesman admitted that the losses resulting from the fire had amounted to millions of pounds.

Regarding the second operation, the Palestinian spokesman said: Another group of our revolutionaries moved at dawn yesterday, 17 May, toward a specified target in Tel Aviv and placed timed incendiary explosive charges inside one of the warehouses of the automobile plant situated on [name indistinct] street in one of the Tel Aviv suburbs. The charges went off at 0730, causing complete destruction of the warehouse and starting a huge fire which reached the adjacent warehouses and the plant.

A total of 12 fire-engines could not control the fire for 3 hours. This operation resulted in the complete destruction of one of the warehouses, damage to the contents of all the warehouses of the paper plant, damage to most machines in the plant, damage to the warehouse buildings, damage to two trucks used for the transport of paper to and from the factory and injury to a number of the enemy who work in the plant.

Following this operation, a wide-scale campaign of arrests took place in Tel Aviv, which included a large number of the Palestinian citizens, under the pretext that they were connected with the operation.

The Palestinian military spokesman further said: A third group of our revolutionaries planted a net of antipersonnel mines in the area north of Elat which belongs to the Zionist water company (?Mekot). This is the main station for pumping water to the settlements set up by the enemy in southern Palestine. At noon yesterday, 17 May, at a time when a group of the company engineers were in the area, one of the mines went off when one of them stepped on it, injuring three of them. The enemy forces which came to the area could not rescue the injured for 2 hours because they searched the area for other mines. These forces also took security measures and set up observation posts in the region.

Our revolutionaries returned to their bases safely after these operations.

VOP ON 'SECRET CONTACTS' BETWEEN HUSAYN, ISRAEL

JN182048Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The Zionist paper HA'ARETZ yesterday exposed the King Husayn regime. It reported that secret contacts are taking place between the Amman government and Israel.

The question now posed is: What does the king want? His representatives have been defeated in the municipal elections, and his name is purposely omitted in all talk about the West Bank in Palestinian, Arab and even international circles. Nobody tolerates raising the king's name in talk of the provisions concerning the Middle East situation.

The king admits this. But he knows that because of his close friendship with the United States--and with the Central Intelligence Agency in particular--he always figures in any solution envisioned by the Americans. It seems As-Sadat's call for the return of the West Bank to the king and Gaza to him has whetted King Husayn's appetite. Therefore, the king showed his old desire to place the West Bank within the fold of his broken throne.

FATAH OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED BY GREEK NEWSPAPER

AT181710Y Athens PROINI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek 18 May 78 p 7 AT

[Exclusive interview granted in Beirut by the secretary general of Fatah, Majid Abu Sharar, to PROINI ELEVTHEROTIPIA correspondent Akhilleas Khatzopoulos. Date not given.]

[Text] Question--What, in your opinion, is As-Sadat's role in the Middle East today?

Answer--On every opportunity we say that Egypt has an historic role in the Middle East, that it is the greatest Arab country, that it has the strongest army, the most developed political strength. This was a fact and it had been much cultivated at the time of 'Abd an-Nasir, who was truly a world personality.

As-Sadat made many mistakes. He started mixing our friends with the enemies and later he put the enemies in the place of our friends.

Then he showed absolute confidence to the Americans and to Kissinger in this area. These plans foresaw peace in the area with the total sweeping of the Palestinians to one side. The plan was to weaken the Palestinians and to place them under an Arab regime.

It is on the basis of this that we can explain the war in Lebanon for the past 2 years. As-Sadat has a great responsibility in this whole story. He opposed us. He was also an obstacle to all efforts to stop this war.

Question--In Europe there is much use of the term "Lebanization." What does this mean to you?

Answer--The Americans, the Israelis and the reactionary Arab forces are playing a game in Lebanon.

Question--Would you like to tell us how many and which armies are at this moment in Lebanon?

Answer--Immediately after the war in Lebanon efforts once again started for a solution. These efforts started after a consultation between the Soviet Union and the United States of America. At some moment we realized that As-Sadat wanted the Soviet Union out of the area. For us the Soviet Union is a sincere friend in our efforts to return to our fatherland. As-Sadat made his trip to Israel, showing all his cards to the Israelis and the Americans, and was immediately turned into an extremely weak leader. As-Sadat's failure was also revealed by the last Israeli foreign minister. Numayri himself, the president of Sudan, said at a congress of solidarity of the Arab states that As-Sadat had failed. I am certain that under the umbrella of the As-Sadat visit to Israel Egypt had no role to play in our area. As-Sadat himself must give the opportunity to others so that they can move and deal with the question of the Middle East. The role of America in the area must become known. In this way Egypt can revive its great role.

Question--What do you believe regarding the Egyptian attack at Larnaca airport?

Answer--This was one of As-Sadat's great mistakes, especially because it was made against Cyprus, which is a sincere friend of the Arabs.

Question--Are the Palestinians united in dealing with the situation in southern Lebanon?

Answer--Since the last war the Palestinians are now united every respect. We know that we must protect this unity. We are convinced that we will continue the struggle with arms. We must also protect our relations with all our friends. We must protect our relations with the mass of the people and we must continue our political and diplomatic activity.

Question--How do you describe the activities of Abu Nidal?

Answer--In the past he was a member of Fatah. Now he is doing things against the Palestinian movement. Five years ago he was convicted in absentia to death by a Palestinian court. Now he is in Baghdad.

Question--What is the position of the Palestinian revolution toward the Cyprus problem?

Answer--We are against the partition of Cyprus. We have strong ties with President Kiprianou, with his government and with the people of Cyprus. Archbishop Makarios both as a man and as a political leader gave us all the support we needed.

Question--Which organizations does the PLO include?

Answer--Fatah, Zaika, As-Sa'iqah, the democratic front, the popular front of George Habash, the Arab front, the Palestinian front and others.

Question--With what African revolutionary movements does the PLO cooperate?

Answer--We have relations and cooperate with all the national revolutionary movements throughout the world.

Question--How can you describe the situation in South Africa?

Answer--I foresee that in South Africa we will have another Israel and that everyone will be dealing with it exactly in the way that things are in our area.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES SOVIET, SAUDI AMBASSADORS

JN181708Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, met at noon today with Comrade Aleksandr Soldatov, Soviet ambassador in Beirut. Present at the meeting was brother Abu al-Lutf, head of the PLO Political Department.

During the meeting, brother Abu 'Ammar received a message from the Soviet leaders on Arab and international developments. Brother Abu 'Ammar also sent the Soviet leaders a message on the latest developments of the current situation in the region.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then met with 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, Saudi ambassador in Beirut. The radio correspondent has learned that the meeting dealt with several current issues on the local, Arab and international levels.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO MEET IN BEIRUT

JN181301Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 May--The Central Committee of the Palestinian national liberation movement will begin a new session here tonight under Yasir 'Arafat lasting several days.

Palestinian sources have told INA that the Central Committee will discuss organizational administrative and political matters in light of the current phase through which the Palestinian question is going. The committee will also review the current Arab situation in general and the situation in southern Lebanon in particular.

The sources also said that the committee will discuss in detail committee resolutions which have been carried out so far and those which will have to be carried out in the next phase.

BAGHDAD: ISRAELI AGENTS TO BE AIRLIFTED FROM CYPRUS

JN172024Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] The Zionist newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported today that the Zionist authorities will be sending a plane to Cyprus soon to take out a number of Zionists present there. The paper explained that this measure was decided on after several enemy intelligence men and enemy spies had been discovered on the island. They were thus exposed to the danger of being killed by supporters of the Palestinian revolution there.

KUWAIT

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES IRAQI INTERIOR MINISTER

LD181742Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Text] Shaykh S'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, received in his office at 0900 His Excellency 'Izzat Ibrahim, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and minister of the interior in sisterly Iraq. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Jabir al-'Ali, deputy prime minister and minister of information, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, foreign minister. During this meeting bilateral issues were discussed, and the meeting was dominated by the spirit of fraternity which highlighted the joint desire to widen relations between the two sister countries and consolidate cooperation between them in a sincere and positive spirit. It was also agreed to continue such meetings which are aimed at achieving the aspirations and hopes of their peoples and which serve the interests of their Arab nation.

Trade Ministers Meet

LD181743Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Summary] A meeting was held at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry this morning between the minister of trade and industry and the Iraqi minister of trade, Hasan 'Ali. The Iraqi minister said following the meeting that he discussed with his Kuwait colleague a number of joint economic projects in the agricultural and industrial fields. He added that the signing of a veterinary agreement was discussed. The two sides have also reached some positive results on the establishment of a rail link between them and the supply of drinking water to Kuwait. He said that the two sides discussed increasing the trade volume between them and diversifying goods in order to achieve a trade balance. They also studied the question of exempting many goods from tariffs.

Agreements, Protocols Signed

JN181216Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 May--'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi RCC member and interior minister, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, signed here today several agreements and protocols to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. The agreements and protocols were signed at the end of the meetings of the Joint Iraqi-Kuwaiti Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation. The committee meetings lasted 2 days.

The agreements include the construction of a railroad connecting Iraq and Kuwait, and other agreements on cooperation in the cultural, scientific, information, agricultural and economic fields. Ibrahim and Shaykh Sabah also signed protocols for cooperation in the fields of water, power, oil, insurance and industrial cooperation.

'Izzat Ibrahim, Iraqi interior minister and chairman of the Iraqi side at the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Kusaiti committee, and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti foreign minister and chairman of the Kuwait side on the committee, expressed their pleasure over the signing of the agreements and protocols. They expressed the hope that the agreements will be a new step on the path of further cooperation between the two countries.

In a press statement after the signing of the agreements and the protocols, 'Izzat Ibrahim described his visit to Kuwait as an important and effective step toward achieving the goals of the Arab nation.

Ibrahim said: We are confident that what we have signed will herald the real beginning of the long march between the two countries to achieve their interests and goals.

On his part, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that the agreements and protocols which were signed are a good beginning on the road of developing relations between Iraq and Kuwait.

COMMENTARY URGES GULF STATES TO WORK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

LD161745Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 May 78 p 1 LD

[By Ahmad al-Jarallah]

[Text] Political leaders in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf must carefully study the situation in Iran and its long-term implications. According to all previous political estimates, Iran was the last place expected to experience violence. In fact, the Iranian police and security organs were seen by the countries of the area as an invincible force in the face of riots. Indeed, the Iranian security forces were renowned for their ability to sense trouble both imminent and distant.

However, recent events in Iran have proved that stability is basically drawn from the ability of the leadership to be among the people without a middleman--to be the monarch of all factions and classes. Where the people's interests are concerned, it is well known that Kuwait has proved during the past 20 years that it has been relatively capable of satisfying the needs of the majority. The Kuwaiti leadership has never been restricted to the big influential people nor has it been only the representative of the active section of the community; rather, the leadership has persistently tried to be logical and fair in its actions in the interest of all parties concerned.

Conditions in the Arabian Peninsula call upon the leadership in the area to realize that disturbances and violence cannot be suppressed by active and intensive security measures alone, but rather by social security and justice so that all the people become real citizens and guardians of their own countries.

Although the situation in Iran is violent, the shah can exploit this situation in order to reorganize the state of affairs and to put the Iranian house in order, a house which has become important for the whole area. These conditions and the atmosphere of violence currently prevailing throughout the world might also indicate the need to put other Gulf houses in order, houses in which officials seek their personal enjoyment and forget their responsibilities. Tampering with the affairs of the nation and relying on personal wealth hoarded abroad is in poor judgment because, in the event that the country collapses and security in it is lost, such wealth abroad and its owner will become the target of claims and prosecution. For it often happens that an official organizes his affairs on such a basis, but when the situation in his country eventually deteriorates he becomes its first victim.

The trust of ruling in this atmosphere of extraordinary wealth, in this rich area calls for a wise and farsighted administration that will seek steadily to achieve social justice. There is nothing easier than making people fear you but there is nothing more difficult than making them respect you.

The shah has launched a new policy of contacting the people. Perhaps his meeting with the chief editors in his country is the beginning of similar meetings that will seek to discover the causes of violence in his country, the violence that the police and gendarmes' bludgeons have failed to stop.

When the people feel distressed they will care for nothing, not even death. We do not wish the peoples of this area, some of whom are crushed by the unjust distribution of wealth, to feel that they have nothing to lose.

UAE

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM MOROCCAN KING

JN190927Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0855 GMT 19 May 78 JN

[Text] Sir Bani Yas, 19 May--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a message this morning from King Hassan II of Morocco. The message dealt with the latest developments in the Arab arena in light of the efforts of the Arab Solitary Committee. It is worth noting that this committee is chaired by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

The message was conveyed to His Highness Shaykh Zayid by the Moroccan monarch's adviser, Driss (at-Tillawi) during their meeting here this morning. The Moroccan envoy stated that there was an exchange of views regarding continued consultations between the two countries.

He added that he will tour the area with similar messages from His Majesty King Hassan II to the leaders of other states.

The Moroccan envoy said that the message to Shaykh Zayid also dealt with bilateral relations and means to boost these relations in various fields.

YEMEN--PDRY

SOVIET NAVY COMMANDER IN CHIEF ARRIVES

LD181955Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 May 78 LD/EA

[Summary] A Soviet military delegation led by Adm Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy defense minister of the USSR and commander in chief of the Soviet naval forces, arrived in Aden this evening on a visit that will last several days. The visit comes at the invitation of PDRY Defense Minister Ahmad Nasir 'Antar.

YEMEN--YAR

YAR SOURCE DENIES REPORTS OF REBELLION

NC181440Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1335 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 18 May--In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Kuwait, a well-informed Yemeni source has denied reports of an attempt to occupy sectors or roads in the YAR, saying these reports are baseless.

The source said there are some differences between YAR Command Council member Maj 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim and the Yemeni command on certain matters and that these differences have prompted Maj 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim to retire to his village in Al-Hajariyah district near the border with the PDRY. The source did not disclose the reason for this disagreement.

The source added that the disagreement between Major al-'Alim and the Yemeni command is no more than a difference in views, that the issue is not one of breaking away from or confronting the state and that what has been published in this regard is exaggerated. The source emphasized that things are progressing normally in San'a' and that the situation there is steady and more stable than ever before.

Quoting diplomatic sources in the UAE, the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH yesterday published a report from Dubayy saying that big military preparations are underway in San'a' to dispatch an expedition to Ta'izz province to deal with a military rebellion led by Maj 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NAMES NEW PARATROOP COMMANDER

JN181806Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Decision No 9 of 1978 by the commander in chief of the YAR armed forces on the appointment of a commander of the paratroop forces]

[Text] In the name of the people, the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, taking cognizance of the permanent constitution and Officers Service Law No 16 of 1975 and in accordance with the recommendations of the chief of staff and the officers committee, declares:

Article 1: Maj 'Abdallah Muhammad Sayf shall be appointed commander of the paratroop forces.

Article 2: Maj 'Abdu Muhammad 'Ali shall be appointed deputy commander of the paratroop forces.

Article 3: Maj Sayf Ghalib Sa'id Muhammad shall be appointed chief of staff of the paratroop forces.

Article 4: Capt 'Abd al-Wahhab 'Abd al-Kafi shall be appointed chief of operations of the paratroop forces.

Article 5: This decision shall take effect as of the date of its issuance and shall be published in the official gazette and military circulars.

Issued at the General Command of the Armed Forces on 18 May 1978.

[Signed] Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. SUBMITS REPORT TO AL-GHASHMI

JN181420Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received in his office this morning Brother Yahya al-Mutawakil, our ambassador in Washington, who submitted a report on the progress of work at the embassy.

SPEAKER CABLES U.S. OFFICIALS ON PLANES DEAL

NC182001Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--In a cable which he has sent to Walter Mondale, the U.S. vice president and Senate president, People's Assembly Speaker Sayyid Mar'i said the Egyptian People's Assembly welcomes the U.S. Senate decision on the planes deal. He added that Egypt's political leadership and its legislature are committed to seeking a just, durable and peaceful solution to the Middle East question.

Mar'i today sent a similar cable to the speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Thomas O'Neill, in which he expressed the Egyptian People's Assembly's welcome for the positive role which the United States is playing to achieve a durable and just peace in the Middle East.

In a third, similar cable to Senate Majority Leader Byrd, Mar'i asserted his belief that the positive step taken by the U.S. Senate on the peace deal will have an effective role in strengthening the ties of friendship between the legislative establishments of the two countries in particular and the American and Egyptian peoples in general. It will also strengthen the current peace efforts.

Mar'i had held long meetings with Mondale, O'Neill and Byrd, during which the Middle East question was discussed extensively. The meetings took place during Mar'i's latest trip to the United States as a member of the Egyptian delegation that accompanied President Anwar as-Sadat last February.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETS

Welcomes Planes Deal

NC181555Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1526 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee held a closed meeting today under the chairmanship of the assembly's deputy speaker, Dr Jamal al-'Utayfi. Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil attended the meeting, which was held to review the current political situation following the U.S. Senate's decision approving the aircraft deal and to assess the anticipated effect of the deal on pushing the peace efforts in the Middle East forward.

After the 3-hour meeting, Dr al-'Utayfi said that the committee welcomes the positive results of the Egyptian efforts to conclude this deal and the political significance of this deal. He said the political aspect is more important than the military aspect because it constitutes an important turning point in the position of the U.S. Congress and marks the beginning of its liberation from the domination of the Zionist pressure groups, of its giving prominence to U.S. interests and of its response to the Egyptian peace initiative.

The People's Assembly deputy speaker said that, while welcoming this decision, the committee hopes it will serve as an encouraging sign for the continuation of the efforts for establishing a just peace in the Middle East.

Further Report

NC181811Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 May 78 NC
[From the newsreel]

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil explained the current political situation at today's meeting of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee.

Our correspondent Amin as-Sawi has sent the following report on the highly important discussions of the committee:

[Begin recording] At its meeting today the committee welcomed the positive results of the Egyptian efforts to conclude the aircraft deal with Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia and the political significance of this deal. This political aspect is more important than the military aspect because it constitutes an important turning point in the position of the U.S. Congress and marks the beginning of its liberation from the domination of the Zionist pressure groups, of its giving prominence to U.S. interests and of its response to the Egyptian peace initiative.

The foreign minister emphasized that Egypt remains committed to any steps which might lead to peace and that its principled stand is based on the realization of Israel's total withdrawal and the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The committee's members then discussed the situation in southern Lebanon. The committee noted that despite the strengthening of the UN peace force, Israel continues to occupy a part of Lebanon and is procrastinating in implementing Security Council Resolution 425. The committee called for mobilizing the efforts to speed up the implementation of this resolution. It said that the United States has an important and positive role on the basis that this resolution was issued upon the [word indistinct] of the two sides. The committee then carried out a study and an analysis of the complicated situation in southern Lebanon and the reaction to the decision by some Lebanese leaders on the liquidation of any armed Palestinian presence. [end recording]

Numayri, UN, Israel Discussed

NC1820000Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee today held a meeting which was attended by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil. The meeting was convened to assess the present political situation in the wake of the U.S. Senate's approval of the planes deal with Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel.

The foreign minister submitted to the committee the results of the Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri's mission. He affirmed that Egypt's declared policy is characterized by the attention it devotes to Arab solidarity. He said: Egypt has expressed its readiness to restore relations with the Arab states with which Egypt had severed relations on the understanding that there should be an intention to achieve a joint Arab action.

The foreign minister added that President Numayri will begin the second phase of his mission next June. The foreign minister pointed to President as-Sadat's recent statement in which his excellency expressed hope that the October war will be the last one in the Middle East. He said: This statement does not diminish Egypt's right to take, at the appropriate time, the position which it deems fit for liberating its territory within the limits of international law.

Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil presented to the committee the text of the memorandum which Egypt has submitted to the United Nations on Israel's violations, its prospecting for oil in the occupied part of Sinai and the fact that this action violates provisions of the international agreements concluded in this respect.

It has been decided that the committee will meet on 25 May, which will coincide with the observance of Africa Day, to discuss the situation in the Horn of Africa and the results of the extraordinary UN session which was held last month on the elimination of colonialism in southwest Africa.

AL-AHRAM: U.S. PLANES DEAL VINDICATES INITIATIVE

LD182005Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 May 78 p 1 LD

[Chief Editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal article: "A Significant Decision"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate has approved the aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia. This was the first practical victory achieved by the peace initiative, for it would not have been possible nor imaginable, within the context of U.S.-Israeli relations, for the U.S. Senate to approve the deal.

Despite the fierce opposition for which all the pro-Israeli forces in the United States were enlisted and the large-scale campaign against the U.S. President himself and against the government, with the aim of influencing public opinion and consequently terrorizing members of the Senate, the decision in the end was in favor of the trend supporting the achievement of peace in the Middle East.

In the past we never expected the Senate to adopt a decision which Israel would refuse, even if such a decision were in the interest of the United States itself. We have always been accustomed to Congress adopting decisions placing Israeli interests above all others.

The significance of the decision does not lie in the number of the U.S. planes that Egypt and Saudi Arabia will obtain: Its significance primarily lies in breaking Israel's monopoly over U.S. arms. This is on the the one hand.

On the other hand, the decision clearly shows that Israel is no longer in complete control of U.S. decision-making and that it no longer completely dominates U.S. public opinion.

Israel understands this decision well and realizes its dimensions. This was the reason behind the pressures the Israeli Government exerted inside the United States in order to block the decision. Israel went to the extent of preferring not to obtain the U.S. planes so that Egypt and Saudi Arabia would not obtain them.

The decision is a direct answer to those who doubt the peace initiative, its impact and its effectiveness. Despite the fact that the decision is a major gain for the Arabs, the anger and pain felt because of it was not confined to the Israeli Government alone, for, unfortunately, it has begun to affect certain Arab regimes and all those who fabricate reasons and excuses to attack the peace initiative.

The decision on the deal is a significant point; its impact will not affect U.S. policy alone but also the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole. Menahem Begin's government understands from this decision that President Carter and Congress insist on going ahead with achieving the objectives of the peace initiative in full. Therefore, Begin will find himself under domestic pressure by the Israeli movement calling for peace and by the U.S. policy that insists on the achievement of peace.

Thus the first step was Anwar as-Sadat's initiative, and now further steps are being taken on this road.

AL-AKHBAR ATTACKS MOSCOW RADIO REACTION

LD181725Y Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 17 May 78 p 7 LD

[Editorial: "Moscow Radio's Affliction"]

[Text] Moscow is seething with anger at Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the U.S. Government. Yesterday Moscow Radio was severly shocked and began hallucinating because the U.S. Senate approved the aircraft deal with Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

It is natural that Moscow should feel so angry and that Moscow Radio should be feverishly hallucinating, because the approval of the aircraft deal, for Egypt in particular, is a fatal blow to the policy of arms monopoly which Moscow wanted to impose on Egypt. It is a well-known and understood policy.

Since we expelled the Soviet advisers, purged ourselves of all vestiges of being Soviet lackeys and refused the principle of establishing bases on our territory and in our seas, Moscow withheld weapons from us and sought to impose an arms monopoly on us, thinking that by such a monopoly it can dominate us and control us. But we have smashed this monopoly by declaring the diversification of the sources of armament, which has alarmed Moscow. It is no secret to say that Moscow tried to close in our face all the doors to arms diversification but failed. It was once again alarmed when we succeeded in our diversification plan far greater than we or anybody else expected.

When we asked for the U.S. aircraft deal, our request was not primarily for the purpose of merely obtaining these planes because we are in dire need for them or so that they will become the backbone of our armament and defense. Rather, in fact, we wanted this deal to be a sort of recognition by the United States that, like any other country, we have the right to obtain all that we need to secure our legitimate needs for self-defense. The United States recognized this right for Israel but denied it to Egypt. In fact the deal is more of political value than it is of military value. Moreover, it has opened yet another door for Egypt for the diversification of arms. This is the secret of the raging anger that his Moscow Radio yesterday.

Moscow Radio yesterday came out with a commentary entitled "Behind the Screen of the Interlinked Deal." We do not deny Moscow Radio the right to broadcast whatever commentaries and statements it likes. We are certain that the people know the value of what Moscow Radio says and realize the purposes behind it. But we pity Radio Moscow for the commentary it broadcast yesterday because it was not a commentary of reason and objective and balanced thinking. Rather it was a commentary of hallucinations.

The Moscow Radio commentary described the aircraft involved in the deal with Egypt as ancient and of little military value. Then it said that the deal opens the door to an armaments race in the Middle East. It also said that the deal does not augur well because it places further obstacles on the path of peace and of solving the Palestinian problem. Is there a cheaper contradiction as evidence of such hallucination?

In fact, the U.S. Senate approval of the arms deal with Egypt was a crushing blow to Moscow's policy against Egypt. It has done away with the last card that Moscow held in the game of arms monopoly with Egypt and of undermining the confidence which is growing between Egypt and the United States.

The aim for which Moscow devoted its efforts in the past few days was to close the door of arms diversification in Egypt's face and to undermine the present confidence between Egypt and the United States. But Moscow's efforts and hopes have been frustrated; therefore, it was natural that Moscow and Moscow Radio should be afflicted by this feverish hallucination.

AL-AHRAM DENOUNCES ISRAELI, SOVIET STAND ON PLANES

NC180847Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-AHRAM today strongly denounces the opposition in Moscow and Israel toward the U.S. aircraft deal. The paper says that the satisfaction the approval of the aircraft deal by the U.S. Congress has brought about in the Arab world is equalled by the resentment it has provoked in Israel and among its pressure-group supporters as well as in the Soviet Union and its agents in the Arab world.

That the Israeli and Soviet aims should coincide in such a suspicious manner might seem odd, but this oddness vanishes when we realize that the difference in the Israeli and Soviet reasons for opposing the deal does not necessarily signify a difference in the objective. The Israelis feel that the establishment of peace and the achievement of a just settlement in the Middle East will not serve their expansionist aims in the area and that the Israeli State, in its present form, might be threatened with disintegration, dissolution and disappearance if a just peace prevails and the inclination to commit aggression against the rights, sovereignty and security of the Arab states and peoples vanishes.

The Soviets are aware that the gap through which they can infiltrate the area politically, militarily and economically is that of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Therefore, in their view this conflict must continue so that their aid, arms and support will be needed and so that, through constant tension and destructive wars, they will have the opportunity to effect social and political changes in the existing regimes--changes that conform to their ideology.

Concluding its commentary, the newspaper emphasizes that the U.S. aircraft deal decision does not open the door to an arms race, as Moscow claims, but it introduces an element of arms balance to the area. This balance will subsequently be reflected in the political field, with regard to the efforts to settle the conflict. This decision proves for the first time that the Carter administration is determined to honor its commitment to balanced policies toward the Middle East. This decision might be a far-reaching turning point.

LEFTIST PARTY ISSUES PROTEST ON REFERENDUM

NC181853Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--The Egyptian leftist opposition today submitted a sharp protest over Sunday's scheduled referendum by which President as-Sadat hopes to obtain the authority to restrain his critics from the left and right.

Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, the leader of the Leftist Party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, told newsmen that the referendum is unconstitutional and a step backward on Egypt's path to democracy.

The constitution allows for one question in the referendum, and this question is to be answered by "yes" or "no." The constitution does not allow for the abolition of a decision on six questions, as is the case in Sunday's scheduled referendum.

Khalid Muhyi ad-Din said: We must say "no" to the referendum. He called on all workers, students and members of the workers trade unions to do the same.

The stance of Muhyi ad-Din's party on the referendum was scheduled to be published in today's issue of the party's weekly newspaper, AL-AHALI. This issue was stopped today, which is the day it appears each week.

It is worth noting that those members of Muhyi ad-Din's party who belong to the People's Assembly have been subjected to increasingly strong criticism in recent weeks for their criticism of the government's policy and the country's economic conditions.

Observers here do not expect Muhyi ad-Din's party to be banned after the referendum.

LABOR ORGANIZATION TO DISCUSS DIRECTOR'S DEPORTATION

JN180939Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0912 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[TEXT[Beirut, 18 May--Hamid Khuri, chairman of the board of directors of the Arab labor organization, has declared that he will call for an extraordinary meeting of the board of directors to discuss the decision by the Egyptian authorities to deport At-Tayyib al-Hudayri, director general of the Arab labor organization's office. Khuri, who is also director general at the Lebanese Labor Ministry, said that the invitation to the extraordinary meeting will be extended as soon as Dr al-Mudayri is officialy notified of the Egyptian decision.

INA: AL-HARIRI REFUSES RELEASE ON BAIL

JN190900Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 19 May 78 JN

[Text] Cairo, 19 May--Progressive Egyptian People's Assembly Member Abu-al-'Izz al-Hariri has refused to acquiesce to the orders of the As-Sadat regime authorities to release him on bail. The seven other progressive companions detained with him refused to be released on bail also.

The progressive deputy and his seven companions were arrested last Tuesday night on charges of leading an anti-As-Sadat procession in Alexandria.

A source at the General Secretariat of the Progressive Unionist National Grouping Party--the left--affirmed that Al-Hariri's arrest is the beginning of the terrorist measures which the As-Sadat regime has decided to use to liquidate the left, silence the patriotic opposition and suppress the liberty of all those who oppose As-Sadat's treasonous policy.

AMMAN AR-RA'Y: RESTRICTIONS TO BE SET ON HAYKAL, FAHMI

JN190635Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 May 78 p 1 JN

[Text] Cairo, exclusive for AR-RA'Y--The Egyptian security authorities are currently preparing their final lists of the writers and journalists who will soon be banned from exercising activities in the press. Most of them are leftists. They include Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal.

There are other lists that include the names of the politicians who will be banned from exercising political activities. The list includes Isma'il Fahmi.

Authoritative Egyptian sources said that the number of journalists included in the ban is well over 50, and that the measures that will be taken against the journalists and politicians are owing to their stands, which the authorities regard as hostile to the regime.

MENA REPORTS CONFISCATION OF OPPOSITION PAPER

NC181556Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1456 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] The southern Cairo Court of First Instance today issued a verdict ordering the confiscation of yesterday's scheduled edition of AL-AHALI paper, the organ of the National Grouping Party, for containing subjects which the law considers as crimes of incitement and as instigation not to obey the law of the state.

The court arrived at this verdict at this morning's session chaired by Counselor Anwar 'Abd al-Fattah Abu Sahla after having considered the case yesterday and today and after hearing the plea of the chairman of the Supreme State Security Prosecution, 'Adli Husayn. 'Adli Husayn had demanded that the 17,000 copies of yesterday's issue of AL-AHALI be confiscated for including subjects considered as instigatory and against the law.

The court also heard the plea of the defense counsel, who demanded the release of the copies of AL-AHALI. He claimed that the contents represent the concept of the party in the state of democracy and the supremacy of the law.

AL-AKHBAR EDITOR DENOUNCES EGYPTIAN COMMUNISTS

LD181644Y Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 14 May 78 pp 1, 7 LD

[Chief Editor Musa Sabri article: "15 May and the Advocates of Darkness"]

[Excerpts] The May revolution had enemies from the first days. They said it was not a revolution. They also said that we called it a revolution in order to obliterate the 23 July Revolution. The Marxists who are allied with the so-called Nasirites describe it as a coup d'etat. This group of people, who were among the tools of autocratic rule and who belonged to the clique which exploited and benefited from political and nonpolitical positions, continues to deny the democratic life brought about by the 15 May Revolution. Instead, this group is slandering this revolution through a black alliance with Baghdad, Damascus and Tripoli and with the capital that directs them, guides them and fosters them--Moscow.

We do not heed what these people say and claim because the 15 May Revolution does not gag mouths, or throw people in concentration camps or torture them to death. Discussion with such ungrateful people leads nowhere.

However, it was both comical and sad when Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, replying to what I wrote the other day, said at an election meeting in Alexandria that the crimes of torturing communists and noncommunists in detention camps and even killing them are simple mistakes which can happen during political and social changes.

It is this very kind of political lying that we were hoping these people would shun and avoid once they had a recognized party and after acquiring a newspaper of their own to express their views without censorship.

The people want solutions for their problems. Whoever has a solution to the economic problem which would enable the toiling masses to attain the same affluence enjoyed by the Egyptian communist leaders must come forward with proposals. The nationalist press is prepared to publish such solutions.

The nationalist press calls upon Khalid Muhyi Ad-Din to come forward with his magic wand and miracles so as to show us how we can improve the public services which collapsed after 20 years of neglect.

The nationalist press calls upon all the communist geniuses to tell us how we can repay the billions of dollars in debts that have weakened our economy when resources are limited, aid is limited and production projects bear fruit only after a lapse of several years.

We do not claim that things cannot be better or that the implementation was faultless. Nor do we claim that every decision taken was the best or ideal. All we call for is consciousness and tolerance so that all will contribute to the construction battle with wise ideas and advice.

People wonder why a legal party which has only three deputies in the People's Assembly is feared so. Outwardly the question is logical but inwardly is deceitful and hypocritical. They have generated this fear in the hope of reaping benefits from it. Why should we fear them when they are so few and occupy only three seats in the People's Assembly?

We are not afraid of anything that this handul of people may do, even if they are backed by secret organizations that once tried to ride the crest of popular unrest that followed a sudden decision to increase prices. These organizations were preparing to exploit this unrest with sabotage, fire and attacks on public utilities. But the conspiracy ended after 2 days, and the people realized what was being planned secretly.

We are not afraid, but we are sorry and sad because some of this nation's sons, though few, have chosen to pursue this path. Their only wish is to exploit suffering and hardship in order to achieve their dreams through destruction and sabotage, because in the light of democracy and under the rule of the law they are unable to reach power.

There is a great difference between alarm and pain. Why should we be alarmed if the communists in Egypt reiterate what Moscow, Baghdad, Tripoli and Damascus say. Have we ever been so afraid of the Soviet Union, despite its domination and might, as to be afraid of minor voices raised here and there?

But we are truly pained because a group of peoples from the sons of this good country, though few, do not uphold the Egyptian flag nor speak with an Egyptian voice. They want everything in Egypt to be maintained.

We understand the Soviet Union's attitude, which is the result of Egypt's ridding itself of Soviet military colonization. But we are pained and hurt by the attitude of this handful of people because they want Soviet military colonization to return.

To them everything in Egypt is wrong and has failed because the Egyptian Army is under the control of the sons of Egypt and because Egyptian decisions do not come from Moscow.

If pain over this degrading and disgraceful situation in their language is called alarm, then, borrowing their language, we are indeed alarmed by this distorted and ugly picture in Egypt after the 15 May Revolution.

DISCUSSIONS WITH SIERRA LEONE OFFICIALS CONCLUDE

NC181612Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1434 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 May--The final session of military discussions was held at the War Ministry at noon today between Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi, deputy prime minister and minister of war and war production, and Brig Gen Joseph Sai Momoh, commander in chief of the armed forces and minister of state in Sierra Leone. The discussion at the 1-hour session dealt with the consolidation of military relations between Egypt and Sierra Leone.

The Sierra Leone guest and the delegation accompanying him are scheduled to leave Cairo at noon this Friday. During his week-long visit, Brigadier General Momoh held discussions with General al-Jamasi and visited some Egyptian units and formations, the war college and the Nasir Higher Military Academy.

EGYPT, FRG SIGN TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

NC182058Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] An agreement was initialed in Cairo this afternoon on scientific and technological cooperation between Egypt and the FRG. The agreement deals with the various organizational arrangements for promoting scientific cooperation between the two countries, particularly between the various organizations concerned in each country.

The agreement was initialed on behalf of the Egyptian side by Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, minister of education and scientific research, and on behalf of the FRG side by Volker Hauff, FRG minister of research and technology.

Agreement was reached on cooperation in the fields of solar energy and prospecting for nuclear ore and its exploitation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

BRIEFS

EGYPTIAN-KOREAN BANK--Cairo, 17 May--A contract was signed today for the establishment of the Cairo Middle East Bank as the first joint Egyptian-Korean bank within the framework of the law on investments and free zones. The bank's capital will amount to some $10 million. The Egyptian side will contribute 51 percent of the capital and the Korean side 49 percent. The Egyptian and Korean sides have agreed that former Egyptian Finance Minister Dr Ahmad Abu Isma'il be the chairman of the bank's Board of Directors. [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1752 GMT 17 May 78 NC]

VOICE OF ARAB EGYPT CONDEMNS ARREST OF EGYPTIAN

JN190550Y Baghdad Voice of Egypt of Arabism in Arabic to Egypt 2000 GMT 18 May 78 JN

["Identity of a Struggler" Program]

[Excerpts] Arab brothers, we usually present to you the "Identity of a Struggler" from Arab Egypt. Today we will break with this tradition to present to you two heroes from among Egypt's strugglers. They are Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri and Ahmad Mustafa.

Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri and Ahmad Mustafa are examples of honest men who are confronting despotism and terrorism through revolutionary confrontation. Hail to the struggling masses of Alexandria who replied to As-Sadat's recent speech by staging an uprising!

To begin, here is Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri; when he stands in the People's Assembly, the reactionaries listen well because the voice of the Egyptian working class is speaking. A member of the People's Assembly, Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri was elected to the People's Assembly from the most populous area of Alexandria. He has been a star in the Egyptian political arena since the time that he, carried on the shoulders of the people of Alexandria, broke the siege imposed by the reactionaries on the voice of the workers in the 1976 elections. Karmuz constituency was a distinguished constituency in those elections. Mamduh Salim nominated himself in the same constituency.

Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri is known in the old city of Alexandria for his battle against the corrupt administrations of industrial companies as well as his battles against opportunistic trade union leaders.

In 1975, Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri led the strike of the textile workers. Then he led the battle which toppled the opportunistic trade union leaders in the General Trade Union of the Textile Workers--the battle which led to his trial on charges of instigation. He was acquitted. However, the management of the company in which he was working began to persecute him. He resisted persecution, but he was discharged by company management. He campaigned in the People's Assembly elections while out of work and penniless. He won over the designs of Mamduh Salim, the genius of plotting, through the power of the masses, who threatened to wage an armed clash with the authorities if they rigged the elections.

When the results of the elections and his victory over reaction were announced, he became the target of an assassination attempt but escaped death by a miracle. He attended the first People's Assembly session while suffering from a knife wound in his face. From the platform of the People's Assembly, he exposed As-Sadat's initiative and requested Mamduh Salim's government to resign, holding it responsible for the massacre of the As-Sa'iqah martyrs in Cyprus.

When Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri stands in the People's Assembly, the reactionaries become unbalanced, because they realize that the voice of the Egyptian people will express itself through a very modest, simple young man--a true son of the Egyptian people and workers. He is Abu al-'Izz al-Hariri, member of the People's Assembly and member of the General Secretariat of the Progressive Unionist Grouping Party in Egypt. He is the leader of the Alexandria uprising. He is the man arrested by the As-Sadat regime authorities the day before yesterday, despite his parliamentary immunity.

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE DENOUNCES AS-SADAT'S REFERENDUM

JN180845Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0758 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--The committee for solidarity with the Egyptian national democratic movement has called for the escalation of struggle and solidarity with the Egyptian Arab people and their democratic nationalist forces in their heroic struggle against the As-Sadat regime.

The committee's secretariat issued a statement here today describing the referendum which As-Sadat called for next week as a mockery. The statement also said that the attack which As-Sadat unleashed on the Egyptian left was an act of treason in preparation for a new repressive campaign which he seeks to launch against the ranks of the political opposition. The statement added that As-Sadat's recent speech "was filled with indifference toward the interests of the homeland and the people, and was an expression of black malice against everything that is progressive and honest."

The statement asserts that the "economic crisis in Egypt is caused by its economic open-door policy and not, as As-Sadat falsely claims, by Egypt's pan-Arab commitments."

The statement added that "As-Sadat is betraying his pan-Arab commitments and is speaking boldly about his visit to occupied Palestine despite the exposure of the capitulationist, conspiratorial, and treasonous nature of this visit."

Discussing the content of As-Sadat's speech and Carter's invitation to As-Sadat and Begin to meet with him in Washington, the statement said: "The note of repression included in the speech came only 1 day after this invitation in which Carter revealed that there is more rapprochement between As-Sadat and Begin than is understood from their public stands."

The statement stressed that As-Sadat is trying to eliminate the opposition by intimidation so that he can conclude his treasonous agreements with the Zionists and the U.S. imperialists.

PALESTINIAN REJECTION FRONT DELEGATION ARRIVES BAGHDAD

JN182054Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2026 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 May--A Palestinian rejection front delegation under Mr Abu Ahmad, member of the front's central council, arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit of several days to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Mr Abu Ahmad said that the purpose of the delegation's visit is to strengthen the stand of the rejection front in a practical way so as to confront the capitulationist solutions and continue the struggle to liberate the whole of Palestine.

Mr Abu Ahmad said that the front stands firmly against those who call for the fake Arab solidarity being forged by imperialism and Arab reaction in the region. The front also opposes capitulationist solutions and works for building a progressive Arab front opposed to capitulationist solutions, Abu Ahmad added. He said that only armed struggle can lead to victory and to the defeat of the enemy forces because victory has always been the ally of the nationalist revolutionary and democratic forces.

After visiting Iraq the delegation will make a tour which will include Libya and Algeria.

JERUSALEM POST: UNIFIL SEEKS ACCORD WITH CHRISTIAN TROOPS IN SOUTH

TA190701Y Jerusalem POST in English 19 May 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By David Landau]

[Excerpts] UNIFIL, the UN force in southern Lebanon, opened informal talks yesterday with Major Haddad, commander of the Christian forces, regarding the Christians' status after Israel's withdrawal from the area. UN and Israeli officials both say that a satisfactory arrangement with the Christians, coupled with the expected arrival next week of additional 2,000 UNIFIL troops from Eire, Fiji and Iran, would remove the last remaining obstacles delaying Israel's complete withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Yesterday's talks, between Haddad and an American officer attached to UNIFIL, was held with Israel's active encouragement. Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan, according to Israeli sources, suggested to UN Middle East forces commander Gen Ensio Siilasvuo when they met last Friday that UNIFIL seek an accord with the Christians in southern Lebanon.

Israel made the same suggestion to Haddad, too, according to Defense Ministry sources.

Israel argues that Haddad's force should be seen as representing the Lebanese central government, the restoration of whose sovereignty over the area is part of UNIFIL's mandate.

The weak central government in Beirut, under pressure from leftist and PLO forces, is apparently not expected to formally endorse Haddad's role. But with discreet diplomacy both in Beirut and in the south it should be possible for UNIFIL to achieve a tacit understanding with the Lebanese Government and with the Haddad group, effectively recognizing the latter as Lebanese troops.

Without such recognition UNIFIL is technically duty-bound under its mandate to disarm Haddad's men, along with all other irregular forces in the area. A primary purpose of yesterday's meeting was for the UNIFIL officer to persuade Haddad that UNIFIL harbours no such intention.

UNIFIL, say UN sources, wants to establish a relatively small presence in the Christian enclaves, and does not intend any massive interference. It would apparently prefer, however, that Haddad confine his troops to within those enclaves--at least in the initial period following the Israeli pullback.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS PALESTINIAN ATTACKS, INFILTRATIONS

NC191228Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 19 May 78 NC

[Excerpts] Armed Palestinians are now concentrating their provocative actions and armed attacks on Lebanese citizens in the south. There have been many provocative actions and several explosions in the areas of Sidon and Az-Zahrani, causing anxiety among the citizens, who wonder how long this Palestinian terror will continue and what the object of these provocative actions and attacks is.

Armed Palestinians have ambushed and shot dead a citizen in the suburbs of Sidon. The city and its suburbs have not enjoyed 1 hour of quiet since. There have been explosions in houses and civilian and religious institutions. According to reports from the south, Khalid Junblatt's house in Al-Bramiyah was hit by a rocket. An explosive charge went off in the Protestant church in Sidon, causing material damage.

In the past 48 hours a number of explosions have taken place in several places in western Beirut, including the discotheque in the Al-Mazra'ah area and in Al-Basta and Karakul Ad-Duruz.

It was reported an hour ago that clashes are currently taking place in Sidon between the Arab deterrent forces and armed Palestinians as a result of the chaotic and provocative actions of the armed Palestinians against the citizens in the city and nearby villages.

We were informed a short while ago that the Palestinian fedayeen infiltrated the town of Al-Qulaylah, southwest of Sidon, at 1230 today, and that they have taken their heavy weapons with them. They have addressed a warning to the UN forces not to stand in their way. The Voice of Lebanon correspondent in the south reports that the armed Palestinians have crossed the UN forces line in the direction of the Israeli forces posts.

Israeli Movements Near Border

NC190739Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 19 May 78 NC

[Text] Security reports indicate that there are Israeli movements near the border area to reoccupy a number of southern villages evacuated recently by the Israeli forces in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 425. These reports say that Israel has taken these measures in view of the infiltration of the Palestinians behind the UN lines in the south.

MILITARY DELEGATION REPORTEDLY LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON

NC181156Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 18 May 78 NC

[Text] According to well-informed Lebanese sources, a military delegation representing the Lebanese Army left recently for Washington. Some members of the delegation will attend a training course and the rest will hold talks with U.S. officials on armaments for the Lebanese Army.

DAMASCUS: EGYPTIAN CHALLENGES AS-SADAT'S MEASURES

JN182028Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Khalid Muhyi ad-Din, president of the Egyptian National Unionist Grouping Party, has challenged the measures announced by Egyptian ruler Anwar as-Sadat. In a press conference held in Cairo today, Mr Muhyi ad-Din stated that the As-Sadat measures are unconstitutional and undemocratic. He said that these measures are aimed at liquidating those who oppose As-Sadat. He said that the criticism announced by the Egyptian [words indistinct] Party is correct and constructive and that the referendum planned by the regime next Sunday is aimed not only against the Unionist Grouping Party but also against all the progressive and patriotic forces in Egypt.

Concluding his press conference, Mr Muhyi ad-Din said that his party will cooperate with all the patriotic forces in order to confront the measures of the Egyptian regime.

TWO OPPOSITION LEADERS REPORTED ARRESTED IN EGYPT

JN182030Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] The authorities of the Egyptian regime are continuing their oppressive police measures against the progressive and patriotic forces opposed to the regime's policy of capitulation.

The day before yesterday, As-Sadat authorities arrested Mr Abu al'Izz al-Hariri, member of the People's Assembly, and seven patriotic individuals under the pretext that they had staged an anti-As-Sadat demonstration in Alexandria.

Reports from Cairo say that the As-Sadat authorities also arrested Mr Ahmad Mustafa, candidate of the progressive and patriotic forces in the elections from Al-Jumruk constituency in Alexandria. The arrest was made immediately after the counting of votes in the elections. The arrest of Mr Mustafa followed his criticism of the election results, his explosing As-Sadat's security authorities' interference in the election procedures and his protest against the voters.

The Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party has condemned the arrest of Al-Hariri, Ahmad Mustafa and the seven party workers. The party said that the arrests are a prelude for the measures which As-Sadat authorities plan to take to liquidate the progressive and patriotic forces opposed to the As-Sadat regime.

TRIPARTITE PLANE DEAL SERVES U.S.-ISRAELI INTERESTS

JN181448Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Whoever follows the Zionist news media, especially the pro-Israel media in the West, will think that by giving the planes to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel, the United States has suddenly turned pro-Arab or that Washington has begun to adopt a neutral stand between Israel and the Arabs, and so forth to the end of this American-Zionist tune.

Of course the purpose of this uproar is to remove any suspicion about the plane deal, which is basically intended for Israel; Saudi Arabia and Egypt were just included to insure that Israel would get this sophisticated weapon and to try to show that the United States does not discriminate against any state in the area.

In the final analysis, we will find that the coverup provided by the Israeli and American news media aims at concealing certain clear facts about the American deal and why it was approved for Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. The deal would not have been approved in the first place were it not for the fact that it serves U.S. policy and guarantees Zionist security in the area through the fulfillment of three objectives:

1. Safeguarding U.S. imperialist interests in the area and entrenching U.S. influence;

2. Backing the As-Sadat regime at home and in the Arab world, where it is isolated and faced with virtual collapse, and enabling As-Sadat to play the role charted for him, namely, fighting against the Arab struggle and national liberation movements in Africa;

3. Strengthening the capitulationist line and implementing it in the area by creating the false impression that the United States holds the key to the solution of the Middle East crisis and that it has begun applying alleged pressure on Israel.

In light of these objectives, we find that the uproar being created by the United States and Zionism over the plane deal is no more than a tempest in a teapot. Its main purpose is to preserve the U.S. imperialist positions in the area and to reactivate the U.S. role in the policy to eliminate the Palestine question and strike at the Arab struggle against the capitulationist line and the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territory.

Carter, himself, disclosed the dimensions of the deal when he stressed that Senate approval of the deal would consolidate Israeli security, which is a permanent U.S. commitment, and protect the Zionist entity from its real enemies.

In short, the purpose of the whole deal is to achieve Israeli security on the one hand and guarantee U.S. imperialist interests in the area on the other. The uproar being created is nothing but a cover in order to achieve all that.

ARAB POLICE CHIEFS CONCLUDE MEETINGS IN DAMASCUS

JN181705Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] At the conclusion of its meetings today, the sixth Arab conference of police chiefs hailed Syria under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, who was the patron of the conference. The conference also praised the achievements of revolutionary Syria in all fields--achievements which are considered as belonging to all Arabs.

The conference adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations related to the curriculum for instruction and training in police colleges, the curriculum for training policewomen and their field of work, and the security and safeguarding of installations.

The conference decided to schedule a meeting for the directors of public relations in the ministries of interior in 1980 in order to complete discussion of the basic issues of Arab cooperation in the field of public relations, to continue supporting the Arab police sports union under its new formula, and to discuss defense against crime within the framework of Arab society.

The conference accepted the invitation of the head of the Qatari delegation to hold the seventh conference in Doha in April 1979.

The conference held its final meeting today under the chairmanship of Brig. Gen. 'Adnan Dabbagh. The recommendations and resolutions were read and approved by a unanimous vote. The chairman of the conference, the heads of the delegations and the secretary general of the Arab society for social defense against crime made speeches. All speakers expressed their thanks and appreciation at having held meetings in steadfast Syria, the land of heroism and glory, under the patronage of its leader President Hafiz al-Asad.

The speakers requested the chairman to convey their greetings to the president leader. They also requested him to convey their gratitude and thanks to the minister of interior and to all those who participated in making this meeting a success.

The speakers also praised the positive results achieved by the conference, especially those related to the strengthening of cooperation and the exchange of experiences among Arab police departments, the protection of Arab society against crime, and the guaranteeing of the security of the Arab citizens. The speakers confirmed that their meeting in Damascus reflected Arab unity.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES ZANU DELEGATION UNDER MUGABE

JN181934Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1230 today the delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU] under Mr Robert Mugabe. The meeting was attended by Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, chief of the Foreign Relations Bureau in the Ba'th Party.

On behalf of the delegation, the Central Committee of his party and the people of Zimbabwe, Mr Mugabe expressed his appreciation for Syria's steadfast and firm stand against Zionism and imperialism. He said: Syria in our opinion is the bastion of steadfastness and we hope that the Arab steadfastness forces and the progressive forces in the world will support it. Mr Mugabe expressed gratitude for the continuous support given by Syria to the people of Zimbabwe. He expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria and his happiness with the results of the talks held between the delegation and the Ba'th Party. He stressed the unity of struggle between the Syrian Arab people and the people of Zimbabwe against a common enemy and against the two racist regimes in occupied Palestine and in Zimbabwe.

The president welcomed the delegation and made it clear that Syria follows with interest and ardently supports the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe and is confident that they will emerge victorious over the racist Smith regime.

The president spoke about the historical relationship between Zionism and the racist regime represented by Ian Smith and the reliance of the two regimes on racial discrimination. He also pointed out the identical imperialist methods of, and the cooperation between, racist Zionism and the racist regimes in southern Africa. The president explained the present situation in the Arab region and affirmed our people's confidence in achieving victory and their determination to strongly confront any challenges.

Mr Mugabe again spoke about the military support given to the Smith regime by Israel, by the racist South African regime and by the imperialist forces. This, he said, proves that we are waging one struggle against a common enemy and that the victory of our struggle anywhere is a victory for us all. Mr Mugabe again thanked Syria for its support of the people of Zimbabwe.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B QUESTIONS MOROCCAN ARMS DEAL

LD181700Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 14 May 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] No one disputes the fact that every country has the right to choose the means of insuring the defense of its sovereignty and borders according to its needs and capabilities. But when the country's defense means exceeds its real national needs, security requirements and capabilities, then the defense concept becomes a design for attack and aggression.

Morocco today is giving us a clear example of this. The arms deal Morocco concluded with several Western powers, which is worth several hundred million dollars--and which they tell us is for "defensive weapons"--inevitably raises questions about the short-term and long-term objective of such "defensive" armament. Why?

If we exclude the danger of Mauritania or Spain--both allies and parties with the Rabat regime in the Madrid agreement--threatening the security of Morocco, where does the potential danger lie? It is Morocco which is currently invading and occupying and threatening its neighbors with danger. If any country has a right to arm, it is Algeria.

The armaments Morocco is acquiring in fact exceed its defense needs; it is part of the strategy of neocolonialism which aims at regaining its old position and containing the area within a network of defense and economic relationships, because the cost of such sophisticated equipment is beyond Morocco's means and ability to use them--their use requires high technological capability that is available only in the country supplying them.

The intensive arming of Morocco falls within the practical, though undeclared, implementation of a defense solidarity alliance which the French head of state declared at the Dakar meeting. This alliance was confirmed when French Jaguar planes intervened to break the seige around the royal Moroccan forces. This is also taking place at a time when an intensive campaign is being mounted to expand the NATO belt to include those countries which have been hesitant to join it or are adopting a false, neutral attitude.

Therefore, the Madrid agreement not only resulted in the usurpation of the Sahara and in obstructing the solution of a colonialist problem which was about to be solved, but in fact also sabotaged all Algeria's sincere efforts to establish a policy of cooperation, brotherhood and neighborliness.

It is now clear that the colonialist powers, which have been yearning to return to the area and which have been annoyed to see all roads in this direction blocked, have advised the king of Rabat and the head of the tribal regime in Nouakchott to divide the Sahara between them and insure political support for those that let Franco's dying regime go along with them.

Therefore, today we are facing a clear-cut plan in which the feudal Moroccan regime is playing the role of the strategic tool of revived imperialism.

CUBAN OFFICIAL HEADS DELEGATION TO ALGERIA

FL182036Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1828 GMT 18 May 78 FL

[Text] Col Jose Ramon Silva, PCC Central Committee member, arrived in Algiers today to participate in the Algerian excombatants congress, which will begin on 24 May. The delegation was received at Ad-Dar Al-Bidha International Airport by Cuban Ambassador to Algeria Raul Barzaga Navas and local leaders.

Colonel Silva also heads the PCC delegation that will attend the fifth anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle in Western Sahara to be held on 20 May. The Cuban delegation will leave tomorrow, Thursday, to a place in the desert where the festivities celebrating the Saharawi anniversary will be held.

FRENCH FOREIGN OFFICE DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD182237Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Summary] At the initiative of the French Government, a delegation led by Senator Pierre-Christian Taittinger, which includes senior Foreign Office officials, arrived in Algiers this morning. It will have talks with an Algerian delegation led by Secretary General [name indistinct] of the Foreign Ministry. Taittinger has been instructed by the French Government to explain the French doctrine on disarmament and to state the direction and nature of the proposals which France is to submit at the UNGA special session on disarmament, which will begin next week.

LIBYA

JORDANIAN FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES 17 MAY

LD181726Y Tripoli JANA in English 1458 GMT 18 May 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 18, JANA--Muhammad ad-Dabbas, Jordanian finance minister, and the accompanying delegation arrived here yesterday on a short visit to the Jamahiriyah. They were received at Tripoli International Airport by Mr Muhammad az-Zarruq Rajab, the treasury secretary, and a representative of the Protocol Department at the Foreign Secretariat.

Mr Rajab was reported by the JANA correspondent to have expressed the hope that this visit would be the beginning of a series of bilateral meetings in a bid to promote fraternal relations, to intensify concerted efforts in the interests of the Arab nations and to support the Arab struggle until victory is achieved.

MAURITANIA

PRESIDENT DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, SAHARA ISSUE

PA181220Y Paris AFP in French 1640 GMT 17 May 78 PA

[Excerpts] Nouakchott, 17 May (AFP)--For the first time this year, Mauritanian President Moktar Ould Daddah has explained that Mauritania will be present at the Fifth French-African Conference (to be held in Paris on 22 and 23 May) because of the excellent relations it has gradually established with France. During an interview with this agency, Moktar Ould Daddah recalled that in 1973, when the First French-African Conference took place, relations "were not too good." That was a time when, moving along a resolutely "nationalist" path, Mauritania denounced the cooperation and defense agreements that had linked it to France since its independence.

Asked about the rumors that secret contacts have been made among the various protagonists of the Sahara conflict, Moktar Ould Daddah responded simply: "Frankly, I do not know anything about that." The president reaffirmed that "in its legitimate defense," Mauritania, "a country attacked by Algeria," is ready "to cooperate with its small resources in the restoration of peace in the area if Algeria finally agrees to recognize Mauritania's national reunification."

According to Moktar Ould Daddah, he does not yet know if the Sahara issue will be debated at the upcoming summit of the Organization of African Unity to be held in Khartoum, Sudan, or at some later date.

Regarding economics, Moktar Ould Daddah announced that Kuwait, which he recently visited, has decided to participate with capital in the National Industrial and Mining Society--a state-owned enterprise created in 1972 to control the exploitation of iron, the country's main export--which was recently transformed into a mixed society. This participation comes about in the wake of Libya's participation, announced a few weeks ago, along with that of two Arab organizations--the Islamic Bank and the Arab Mining Company, whose headquarters are located in Jidda (Saudi Arabia) and Amman (Jordan), respectively.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO CLAIMS SUCCESS AGAINST MOROCCANS, MAURITANIANS

LD141302Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Summary] A communique issued by the Saharan Ministry of Defense says that Saharan revolutionaries waged brave operations against Moroccan and Mauritanian forces in the regions of Semara and Tifariti last week. On 10 May, they attacked defense positions of the occupation forces in Tifariti, where they were able to ambush a unit of the invaders, capture 5 soldiers and officers and destroy 11 military vehicles. The communique added that the Saharan revolutionaries captured a significant number of weapons and ammunition during the battle. They also attacked defense positions around Semara and stormed a position of the invaders where 15 soldiers were killed and all their weapons and equipment were seized. At the same time, a truck loaded with invaders was blown up by a mine placed by the revolutionaries north of Ben Tili Oued. Some 3 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 10 others wounded in this incident.

Moroccan Losses Reported

LD142326Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] A Saharan Democratic Arab Republic communique states that the Saharan Liberation Army on 10 May attacked the Bir Mogrein garrison in northern Mauritania, which is occupied by the forces of the expansionist Rabat regime. The statement adds that the Saharan revolutionaries killed five Moroccan soldiers and blew up fuel storage tanks and weapons. This operation was followed by another in the Tifariti region where six Moroccan soldiers were killed.

On 12 May the Saharan forces surprised the invasion forces near Swayyih, south of Mahbes, killing 18 men and destroying a number of vehicles, including two jeeps with machineguns.

RABIN, TAMIR DISCUSS VARIOUS TOPICAL ISSUES

TA172214Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 17 May 78 TA

[MK Yizhaq Rabin and Minister of Justice Shemu'el Tamir discussion of Senate decision to supply aircraft to Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel--introduced by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir on Moqed program--live]

[Text] [Ahime'ir] Good evening. This evening, to mark a year since the election to the ninth Knesset, we intend to discuss the reversal which took place this week in the U.S. Senate. Maybe there is and maybe there isn't a connection between the results of the election on 17 May last year and the results of the voting this week on Capitol Hill. The debaters this evening are Minister Shemu'el Tamir and the former prime minister and MK, Yizhaq Rabin. Mr Tamir, may I turn to you first. In lead editorials and through the opposition we hear the accusation that this cabinet is guilty of confusion, hesitancy, of absence of a clear and sharp line with regard to the idea of the triangular aircraft deal. Do you feel that the cabinet had a clear line for action on this issue?

[Tamir] I think that the cabinet had a clear line of action from the first moment, that at a certain point it is a direct continuation from previous cabinets, particularly from the cabinet headed by MK Yizhaq Rabin. We regarded with great gravity the various grounds for arms supplies to Saudi Arabia and Egypt. First, from the military aspect: The supply of F-15's and, in the future, F-16's, to the Saudi Arabians for the base in Tabuk, which is not far from Elat, is a change in the balance of power. This is the first time that an Arab country, which is in fact a confrontation country, will have in its hands sophisticated U.S. weapons of the best type--which are, it is true, also in the hands of the IDF--in most significant quantities. The second grave point is the link the Americans have made, for the first time, between the supply of weapons to Israel--that same Israel toward whom the Americans had a special commitment, and this time they have linked up a deal which was defended by a specific commitment to the previous cabinet in the framework of a settlement between Israel and Egypt, with U.S. support--and supplies to the Saudis and the Egyptians. Third, the matter proved to be a growing trend toward a mutual link between the Egyptians and the Saudis and the Egyptians [as heard] to this degree or another, at the expense of the relations with Israel.

[Ahime'ir] I asked whether the cabinet had a clear line of action to foil the arms deal....

[Tamir] And so, because of all these grounds, I spoke about their gravity, whose beginnings we saw when the Hercules were supplied in 1976 during the time of the previous cabinet, even then all those who understood what was happening forecast, correctly, that this was a first stage and a first step, and we regarded this with gravity. All along the way the cabinet opposed it, gave expression to its opposition, used friends wherever they were, Jews and non-Jews, and the embassy acted, knowing the difficulties because of the pressures under which the United States is also working and, made an enormous effort to express opposition and to try and bring about a cancellation of the deal, without leading to a frontal, dangerous clash with the Americans.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Rabin, were the seeds sprouting during your cabinet's time?

[Rabin] I would like to present the matter as it is since, in my view, what happened in the Senate decision is the hardest blow ever given to Israel-U.S. relations by the United States.

Let us try to understand why. In the past arms have been supplied by the United States to Arab countries; supplied in these or those quantities. They were never supplied in such quantities and in a political context such as has happened this time. First, there has been a clear violation of a presidential commitment to Israel to supply the F-16, a commitment which stands on its own and was not connected with any other condition. That is, they took an existing commitment and tied it up with other things. From this aspect, the U.S. administration did something most grave.

[Ahime'ir] It appears to me that you were also given a promise against the background of the interim settlement, on a political matter, because of a political matter. This is not a matter which...

[Rabin] I want to explain. The commitment was given to Israel in connection with the negotiations and the achievement of the interim settlement, but now they have taken an existing commitment which stood on its own and tied it up with the supply of weapons to other countries. Therefore the matter, in my view, is grave, and does not resemble anything in the past. Now, as for the cabinet's activity: In the past we also came up against positions which Israel did not accept and we fought them. Here Israel had an opportunity to fight, not against the administration's decisions, but against their confirmation by the legislative institution, by the Senate, and it appears to me that this fight was handled badly. The most outstanding example was that the main point, that there is a violation of a promise, was not presented by Israel at the beginning of the fight. More than that, when the prime minister recently went to visit the United States, according to what was said by President Carter in public, and I have reason to believe that he spoke the truth, the prime minister did not even put the issue to him. The whole fight was handled badly and, in my view, I very much respect the 44 senators who voted against the deal even when they knew, and they were told, that the prime minister of Israel did not put the issue forward.

[Ahime'ir] That is to say, in your view the number of 44 senators in such circumstances meant a great deal.

[Rabin] I think that Israel has to express respect and appreciation to the 44 senators who, in those circumstances, stood by our interest. I also think that the implications go beyond the supply of arms, which is in itself a grave problem, because what is going to take shape is something which did not exist during the Sinai campaign, the 6-day war or the Yom Kippur war, namely, that the air forces of the Arab countries will have an aircraft that qualitatively equals the best of our planes. They will have the F-15 and we will have the F-15. Above all, however, this reflects an acutal change--contrary to run-of-the-mill descriptions. Anyone who is acquainted with U.S. politicians knows that words always can be found there in plenty: the love of mother, father, Israel and so forth. The problem is how this is translated from theory into reality. This is the first time that the administration--and the Senate gave its approval--has put the security of Israel on the same level with the security of Saudi Arabia and Egypt, from the U.S. point of view. Such was not the case in the past.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Tamir, how do you explain the prime minister's failure to raise such an important and crucial subject in his talk with President Carter. Was this point explained to the cabinet?

[Tamir] The subject was raised all along the way by every authority.

[Ahime'ir] In the course of the last talk?

[Tamir] I do not know whether the subject was raised in the last talk. We have not heard recently....

[Rabin] But I do know.

[Tamir] Possibly. The last talk was a very brief one. The central political talk held that week in the United States was conducted between U.S. Secretary Vance and Foreign Minister Dayan. Dayan firmly raised the subject with all its implications and seriousness. The Israeli ambassador in the United States, who derives his authority from the government and who is representing it continuously--the same ambassador who also served in MK Rabin's time and who knew all the particular data--was acting continuously, pointing out Israel's opposition on behalf of the prime minister and in the name of the entire cabinet. There is, however, a situation in the Congress, and allow me here to refer to....

[Ahime'ir] No, I would still like to receive an answer. How is it possible that the prime minister failed to raise this subject in his talk with President Carter?

[Tamir] I have already answered you. The talk between the prime minister and the President--even if he did not raise the question, and whether he broached this point has to be asked of the prime minister--was a very brief talk, in which the central problem of peace, the renewal of the talks with As-Sadat and the relationship between us and the United States were discussed. This was a kind of follow-up talk to a much more detailed talk, to a number of talks rather, which the foreign minister had about details and substance with the secretary of state, and in which this subject was raised in the full extent of its gravity. Israeli representations to the U.S. administration and to Carter's presidency were dispatched all along the way. But we were facing a reality which was not new and the former prime minister knows it.

I have in front of me something from 1976: the supply of Hercules, the first supply of U.S. aircraft, to the Egyptians. I quote from the then prime minister's statement. I am quoting from DAVAR of 8 March 1976, more than 2 years ago. Rabin pointed out that in the U.S. administration and Congress, Israel's friends meet with a certain embarrassment because they support actions leading to a rapprochement between the United States and Egypt and often there is no way to evade a supply of U.S. weapons in order to bring about a decrease in Soviet-Egyptian relations. This was the then prime minister's explanation in the circumstances under which the rapprochement began. Let us for a while look at the objective background, regardless of how disagreeable it may be to us. The Soviets were expelled from Egypt, a void was created. The Americans are doing everything in their power to fill the place of the Soviets. Now, a communist overthrow in Afghanistan has been successful; there is a struggle for Africa; and the Americans succeed in bringing the Egyptians over to their camp. Egypt says we no longer have Soviet arms, either you give us arms, or we return to the Soviets, or we take them from the Europeans. There is also competition between the Europeans and the Americans. America is doing everything to consolidate its position with and hold on the Egyptians.

On top of that there are the Saudis. Saudi Arabia today is involved in America in financial deals on the order of $100 billion. Saudi oil is a principal source of energy to the Americans. The fate of the U.S. dollar--which falls, rises, consolidates--depends on the decisions of Saudi Arabia. The average American, and the U.S. politician even more so, knows that his entire economy depends on energy and that in turn is again dependent on the relations with Saudi Arabia. In any case, this is how Carter describes the situation to them. This is the same Carter who, when running for the presidency, denounced publicly, together with Jackson and Udall, the arms deal with Egypt, when they wanted to be elected. Under these circumstances, the State of Israel is confronted with a situation of a move which is growing increasingly serious: A U.S. attempt not at even-handedness or at a balance, but to lean on even extremist Arab countries. As far back as in 1976 they were considering the possibility of supplying arms even to distant Syria and Iraq with the aim of putting them farther away from the Soviets.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Rabin, is there a connection between the six Hercules aircraft and the dozens of planes that are now being supplied?

[Rabin] With all due respect, there is a meaningful difference between six Hercules aircraft...

[Tamir] With which it all began.

[Rabin] I beg your pardon... which are transport planes. They are not planes capable of attacking targets, let alone targets in Israel, or a massive supply of 60 F-15's and of 40 or 50 F-5E's to Egypt. [as heard] However, as to what Minister Tamir has said regarding the problems of the United States--those are serious words of substance. The basic question is, beyond the scope of the problem of the deal, perhaps in the context of the background against which the Senate endorsed the deal: What is the Israeli policy with regard to this reality? I have no doubt that there is a link between the fact that the deal has been endorsed in the Senate and the serious erosion that has taken place in the American people's support of Israel's political positions. Every attempt to separate what has happened around the deal from the erosion which occurred, especially during the last year and particularly since As-Sadat's visit in Jerusalem, will be wrong. I believe that in addition to everything connected with the lack of action by the Israeli Cabinet--again, I repeat, none of us has a patented procedure of merely how to succeed--I am saying that the Government of Israel has not done what it could in the struggle against the deal. I think, moreover, that the Israeli policy, Israel's positions regarding negotiations with Egypt, everything that was done with the quasisettlements, the archeological settlements; all these left a negative impression with U.S. public opinion--an impression which is reflected by erosion and the political translation of which means a change in the attitude of the Senate and the Congress on subjects that were at issue in that case.

[Ahime'ir] Since the Congress expresses public opinion...

[Rabin] Since the Congress reflects the most credible and true expression of the mood and inclinations of the public. Moreover, we have heard this year one slogan from the mouth of the prime minister: There is no confrontation. I believe it is impossible--be it in the past, the present or in the future--not to see that in order to sometimes check negative tendencies or tendencies of the administration not acceptable to Israel, the way to counter this is to enlist the support of the public in its various forms in order to restrain the administration. It is impossible for a prime minister to crown the President of the United States with compliments of the kind this prime minister has done. No past prime minister has said such things about the President of the United States, in the way of praise, acclaim, laudation and glorification--in excess and without basis. This should be discontinued.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Tamir, what is the part of Israel's policy in what has happened?

[Tamir] I think it will be a serious mistake and it will be unjust--to use an understatement--to say that this deal wouldn't have come off had the policy been different. One can have reservations about policy, and there are reservations about certain points in our policy. The timing of the settlements, for example, certain interpretations of certain issues--these, however, are in no way crucial. There is here a clear tendency which, again, was pointed out by the then prime minister and present Knesset Member Rabin in 1976. I believe in facts and in exact quotations. The prime minister warned Secretary of State Kissinger that the supply of Hercules aircraft in 1976 constituted a dangerous precedent that could be followed by much larger supplies. He saw that move correctly.

I was at the time in the Senate in the United States and I briefed the prime minister on my meetings with senators who told me: This move is a first step. We must win over the moderates. Saudi Arabia and Egypt were counted among the moderates. This is an organic phase of a comprehensive U.S. policy today. Then I said what I did: There can be reservations and criticism--and this is legitimate--regarding the activities of the government. The deal is an offshoot of the comprehensive U.S. approach to the region and of the economic situation in the United States. To attribute all this to our government would be simply unjust. It is certainly a blow, and I'll be the last to ignore this fact. We shall have to contend with it, we shall have to prepare military answers as well as political answers. This morning I spoke with a leader of U.S. Jewry. They see it as a very serious blow too. The Jewish lobby has suffered in its ability to influence and to persuade. But, he said to me, you know, I am not a devotee of your cabinet--he does not belong to those who favor this cabinet--anyone who says that you are responsible for what is happening is doing you absolutely wrong. Nobody heeded us or the senators. There have also been clear interests here, including interests of U.S. aircraft firms, and this is a very powerful lobby. It is true that the senators who persevered under all this pressure and voted as they did have proved their mettle, and that they also bear evidence of a very considerable support in Israel.

Look here Ya'aqov, I remember that in March, before the interim agreement, a number of us Knesset members had been invited to meet with the then prime minister, Mr Rabin, and he informed us of his decision not to submit to the U.S. dictate regarding the interim agreement. Later a change occurred, 6 months afterward....

[Rabin] A change occurred...

[Tamir] Just a moment, just a moment. The life is not over yet. No, no. But I want to say something. Then he showed us the message he had received from President Ford, which today is no longer classified. At that time it was classified. That was a confrontation; that was a state of relations which was tense, difficult, threatening, pressing. We told Mr Rabin then: We shall stand together and overcome. As a result of that stand, certain changes have been accomplished. Today we are confronted with a situation of an Egyptian dictate. Israel has agreed to forfeit all sovereignty in Sinai; it has agreed not to institute Israeli law in Judaea and Samaria; it has proposed an autonomy plan that was by everyone held to be a good plan, at least in the first stage. Far-reaching gestures have been made, and we refuse to accept a dictate, to return to the 1967 boundaries. There is a policy of a contention, of a struggle for peace, but for a peace that can be lived with, not a peace that will last for only a few weeks before the great offensive. So, then, we are in the midst of a struggle, a strife to try and achieve the best of terms and conditions; and the Americans, out of interests of their own, are also exerting pressure on us. Are we to be blamed for holding out? I expect today's opposition in Israel to stand by the side of the cabinet in its struggle for peace as we did at that time. We must stand united in the face of U.S. pressure and a confrontation with the Americans. This is certainly a low point in the relations. Other days will be coming too, however, if the Americans realize that the Israeli society is persevering under that pressure, albeit with accompanying criticism, in an attempt to reach a correct middle path between flexibility and the strength to persevere. All this is true, but...

[Rabin] May I be allowed to interrupt Mr Tamir and to recall that particularly at the time of the confrontation in March 1975, which you described, and when we did not achieve what we wanted and when we ended up with what had looked like a crisis, Dr Kissinger interrupted his mission, his shuttle trip. Two months later, 76 out of 100 senators joined in a persuasive representation in a letter to President Ford and supported Israel.

[Ahime'ir] I think it was in the midst of...

[Rabin] During the period of reassessment. That is the difference between the situation then and the situation today. Why?

[Tamir] What happened meanwhile in the relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia? With your permission, this is something you should be taking up too. This is a question.

[Rabin] Pardon me. I'd simply like to ask--I didn't interrupt.

[Tamir] No, no. I'm not interrupting. Just a question.

[Rabin] I'd like to say what the difference is. The difference is that at that time we knew how to present positions which it was possible to explain to the U.S. public. They were acceptable to that public, and therefore we were supported--in consequence of the public support in Israel and its expression in Congress--also in the struggle against the President, and this bore fruit.

You have now described the Israeli peace plan. You presented it as if we had consented to a reinstatement of the sovereignty up to the international frontier. [sentence as heard] We have not at all spoken of any plan that would politically deviate from the lines of June 1966 [date as heard]. An Israeli peace plan that is so unpopular in the American public has become an exceptionally effective lever in the hands of the administration and other elements to be used to undermine the stand of Israel. How are you going to explain this?

[Tamir] Mr Rabin, this is actually untrue. With all due respect and friendship, this is not true. I was in the United States when the prime minister presented the peace plan to the Americans. It was accepted--I spoke with the U.S. secretary of state, Mr Vance, personally--it was accepted with praise and it was acclaimed as a big step forward to peace and as an Israeli gesture. It was even stressed that for the present prime minister, who was elected on the basis of a certain platform, this was a daring step forward.

[Rabin] If everything was so good, why is everything so bad?

[Tamir] Just a moment. All this was good until As-Sadat said: I do not accept--not the American public, not the Congress, not public opinion. It was at that stage received with applause. As-Sadat said, no. I am telling you, you shall mention the return of all the territories, you will mention it now; you will mention the Palestinian state, and then I will sit down to a table with you. The more the Egyptian positions grew more intransigent--as you know--the Americans told us: As far as we are concerned, this was a fine plan, at least at the first stage...

[Rabin] On every Israeli plan the Americans said: The Arabs will accept and we...

[Tamir] As you have said, please, without mutual interruptions.

[Rabin] You are right.

[Tamir] They said: Everything is positive, As-Sadat refuses; do take a step forward.

At some stage or another, after consideration, it may or may not be necessary to take another step, but we are at the height of bargaining, and do not compare 1976 to 1978. The lineup of U.S. dependence, from the aspect of energy, and the economic position of the United States, has changed for the worse to such an extent that its dependence on the Saudis has worsened and become more grave and everybody knows this, and the U.S.-Egyptian rapprochement has become deeper.

We have heard personnel from the then-Israeli administration asking if it would be preferable for them to receive Soviet weapons, preferable for them to receive French weapons, from those hostile to Israel. I remember when there was the debate on the nuclear reactors that the United States was going to supply to Israel and to Egypt and we saw this as very grave and I heard members of your cabinet, and you, too, asking if it would be better for them to get them from the French. These were brakes on the degree and strength of Israeli opposition. We are in a dilemma of two superpowers competing for the area, with the Americans telling us: for your own good it would be preferable, in the long run, that the control--dates of supply and everything else--over the weapons systems should be ours. Therefore, there are objective data here. I am not saying that, with these objective data, there is no room for dynamic, vigorous, sharp activity. I think that a very great deal was done. Maybe it would have been possible to have done more. It is also important what happens from now on. I want to say to you, and I assume that you agree with me, that the story is not over. It is aircraft this time; it may be that there will be tanks. The continuation of the struggle for public opinion will be very important. It is a fact that, because of the pressure exerted by the cabinet on public opinion, the day after the deal attempts at appeasement came from the White House. The struggle is at its height and it may be bound up with the political struggle. It will have an effect. We will have to live with this reality, to cope with it, to use counterpressures and to do this while seeing the total picture.

[Ahime'ir] Gentlemen, I would like, with your permission, to move to another aspect of the same issue in the time left to us. To quote from something said by Senator Mike Gravel from Alaska: he said, during the Senate debate the day before yesterday: I must say that this will be a year of defeat for the Jewish influence in this country, in the United States. Whether they win or lose in this vote, the members of the Jewish community will lose. What is the significance of such a statement by a U.S. senator?

[Rabin] I think that this is a grave statement, but it contains a grain of truth and I want to go back to the issue, because the expression of the issue was in the Senate decision, but its background is more comprehensive. The remarks made by Minister Tamir are correct, but must I draw from them that Israel has to surrender? Furthermore, if this is the reality, if there has been a worsening in those issues described by Minister Tamir, is there no room for Israel, in laying down its policy, to take that into account in determining its moves and positions? I repeat my determination that the peace program as it was presented by the Cabinet of Israel was accepted as a basis by the U.S. administration.

[Tamir] As a good basis.

[Rabin] As a very good basis, because it is based on the lines of 4 June 1967, because it is possible to introduce it into the awareness of the U.S. public more than any program of the Alinement.

[Tamir] So, is it too moderate...?

[Rabin] Excuse me. No, it contains things that the U.S. people do not accept and you have not understood this. It is impossible to say, I return sovereignty up to the international border, and then do something which is interpreted as a fraud through the settlements, the Israeli administration, the Israeli Defense Force in Sinai. Every average American is saying one of two things: Either you return sovereignty or you do not. You have security requirements; present them. Put them on the table.

[Tamir] MK Rabin, this caused the opposition....

[Rabin] Excuse me, excuse me. Allow me on the issue of Judaea and Samaria, on the one hand, recognition via the local rule, the autonomy and a nucleus of a Palestinian colony; you have recognized the nucleus. Give them the right to participate in the determination of their future. Today Egypt is not insisting on a Palestinian state, to the best of my knowledge. Today Egypt is not insisting on the Palestinians' right to self-determination, although in public it will certainly insist on this, and I think that the result of the presentation of the Israeli peace program was that it became the most effective lever via the U.S. administration to lead to the actualization of its current position which, by the way, was accepted before the entry into power of the Likud cabinet. That is the Brookings plan. The peace program, as presented by the cabinet, has become the most effective lever for the erosion in the support for Israel in the United States.

[Tamir] I think there is no connection.

[Rabin] I am sorry.

[Tamir] If you will permit me, when the Likud, and you yourself pointed this out, Yizhaq, when the Likud was not in power and the DMC was not in power and the Alinement was in control, Prime Minister Yizhaq Rabin was faced with reality: When Carter spoke about the PLO as someone with whom we would have to negotiate, the Americans then spoke about a third state....

[Rabin] No, no, that is not correct....

[Ramir] Permit me. Since then matters have changed, after the peace program, after the establishment of the present cabinet. First, the PLO is out of the picture, even as far as the Americans are concerned; a situation which you would have welcomed very much. Agree with me. Had, during your time...just a moment....

[Rabin] That is not correct....

[Tamir] It is. Then they put pressure on us, way back during the first days of the current cabinet, they tried to put pressure for negotiations with the PLO. As a result of our standing firm and of the peace program, the PLO has been dropped as a partner in negotations.

[Rabin] As a result of As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem....

[Tamir] Today, today, why do you refer to As-Sadat? It was as a result of two moves....

[Rabin] He brought about the change. On this issue....

[Tamir] Not correct. Had it been unilateral, the matter would have fallen to pieces. Because the Israeli reaction was very kind and broad, a situation was created in which it was possible to speak about Egypt and Israel and maybe Jordan without the PLO, first. Second, the Americans now, unequivocally, are not speaking about a third Palestinian state in the area. Third, for the first time, and, at any rate, in a completely outstanding way, as a result of the current cabinet's firm stand, it is being said that even after the first 5 years of autonomy, the Americans are specifically saying that the IDF will have a position in Judaea and Samaria and the Gaza Strip for security requirements. These are far-reaching achievements and matters have not ended with this.

We are at the height of the negotiations, but do I not remember the bitter and difficult talk between the then prime minister, Rabin, and Carter back in his time in office? Something has changed since then and there will yet be ups and downs. Nobody is describing the situation as being ideal or idyllic. We are faced with....

[Rabin] I must react to those remarks.

[Tamir] Willingly, willingly. We are at the peak of a struggle. There will be ups and downs in it and we must not describe it in colors that are too black. It is serious, it is grave. It was not born out of something woven in Jerusalem, but what is done in Jerusalem will undoubtedly have an effect and a great deal is dependent on our steps, our movements, our intentions. There is no argument about this.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Rabin, please, a short reaction.

[Rabin] First, in my talk with Carter in March 1977, the President said: Israel's security line will be the Jordan River. He has views, and they have not changed, as to where the political border should be.

[Tamir] But they did not speak....

[Ahime'ir] Mr Tamir, I beg you, just the reaction, because....

[Rabin] The third state was not mentioned at all in the talks. The reference was to a homeland for the Palestinian, and I think that the Begin plan will create the homeland for the Palestinians. It has created the seed for this. The third thing is: The PLO eliminated itself after the Carter administration in August 1977, during the time of the national unity cabinet deviated from commitments and, again, there was no reaction from the Cabinet of Israel, so that, on the issue of the opposition to a third state, too, on the issue of the PLO, of course, as I said, matters were....

[Tamir] When it is convenient, the responsibility was the cabinet's when it is convenient, the cabinet....

[Ahime'ir] That is how the world goes....

[Tamir] That is not so, I am sorry, that is not how matters are.

[Ahime'ir] Our time is up. Mr Tamir, Mr Rabin, I am very grateful to you. We opened with a talk about the aircraft to be supplied by the United States to Egypt and Saudi Arabia and Israel and we closed, almost as expected, with our own policy. Good evening.

SHOVAL CRITICIZES CARTER, U.S. IN SYMPOSIUM SPEECH

TA180920Y Jerusalem POST in English 18 May 78 p 2 TA

[Text] Ramat Gan--Deploring the U.S. Senate's approval of the warplane package deal, MK Zalman Shoval, chairman of the Foreign Ministry's Information Advisory Committee, warned yesterday that it could lead to another Middle East war.

Shoval was speaking in the day-long symposium sponsored by the Bar-Ilan University Student Union on the first anniversary of the Likud's election victory. He charged the Carter administration with adopting this course as part of its grand design to weaken Israel and force unilateral concessions out of this country. Shoval held that Israel had been in confrontation with the U.S. since the 6-day war, due to basic disagreement over Israel's concepts of security borders.

Disagreeing with him, former Foreign Ministry Director-General Shelomo Avineri blamed Israel's deteriorating position in the U.S.--whether in the White House, Capitol Hill or U.S. public opinion--on the Begin government's performance. Avineri saw the Senate's vote as Israel's greatest failure in the U.S. He blamed Begin's post-election claim that "there will be many Allon More's" for creating a wrong impression in the U.S. of supposed Israeli expansionism.

Deputy Premier Yiga'el Yadin attacked the former Labour government for not having done enough to tackle the country's social problems. The archaeology professor spoke of his shocked reaction after visiting Ashdod Slum quarters. Yadin, who is chairman of the cabinet's Social Affairs Committee, charged the previous government with having failed to give enough means to that body. Perusal of classified documents from the former government indicated good decisions that were never executed. He believed the Begin government was on the right road in tackling these problems.

Knesset Interior Committee Chairman Shelomo Hillel, who was Yadin's predecessor in that cabinet committee in the Rabin government, recalled how he had criticized the former administration's inactivity on social policies more than any opposition MK. However, he stressed, they at least tried to help the poor by taxing the rich, and so far the present government has done little in this area.

Former Finance Minister Yehoshu'a Rabinowitz told the students that this government's massive devaluation had proved pointless, having increased the national debt and spurred inflation. His successor's policy might have worked had it been followed by drastic budgetary cuts and wage restraint. Likud caucus chief on the Knesset Finance Committee, Yiga'el Kohen-Orgad, stressed the government's efforts to overcome Labour's economic mismanagement. He put the blame for the present inflationary spiral on Rabinowitz's policies.

In the summing-up, MA'ARIV deputy editor Moshe Zak argued against the popular notion that there was any revolutionary political change on May 17, 1977. All that happened was a democratic change of prime ministers and cabinets he said. The establishment had remained as before.

DAVAR editor Hanna Zemer charged that the Begin government had disappointed the public in less than a year and warned of the incipient threat to democracy in the government's too-frequent use of military censorship for political purposes, such as converting too many cabinet sessions into secret ministerial defence committee meetings. She felt that Labour was not yet psychologically adjusted to serving in the opposition.

The Jerusalem POST editor Ari Rath regretted the ineffective way the Begin government implements its own policies. He also felt that there was no proper decision-making process at the top of the government, and too much left to intuition.

DAYAN RETURNS, CRITICIZES AIRCRAFT DEAL

TA190803Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 May 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan returned to Israel last night from a visit to the Scandinavian countries. On arrival, he said that in general, apart from Finland, which takes the Soviet position on the Middle East, the Scandinavian countries take more or less a British-U.S. position. On the issue of the aircraft, Dayan rejected the complaint that not enough was done by the cabinet to reject the deal. Our correspondent Sara Frankel brings us some of the remarks made by the foreign minister on his arrival:

Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan thinks it is important to discuss or explain Israel's position even in countries which have differences of opinion with us. This is the reason he visited the Scandinavian countries. The foreign minister was asked why he did not stay in the United States while the aircraft deal was being discussed in Washington. According to him, he dealt with this issue intensively while he was in Washington the week before and he presented Israel's position until he was rebuked by members of the administration for intervening in U.S. affairs. According to him, it would have been a mistake to remain in the United States during the voting. [begin recording]

[Dayan] I am not going into all of the issue of the decision regarding the sale of arms, but I do not think that anyone among the Americans, the administration or those who support us did not know Israel's position with all its reasoning, inside out. Those who voted against us did so not because they did not know our position or the grave importance we attached to the sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia. This includes Dr Kissinger, who recommended doing so. He would be the last not to know of our position. When they took their position, it was not because our position was not clear to them. [end recording]

How should Israel reply now, after the decision on the triangular deal? Moshe Dayan proposes that we should not permit the Americans, in addition to the sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia, to also sell us naive formulations, such as that it is not so bad or that it is not important, indirectly, they may yet tell us that it may even be helpful. [begin recording]

[Dayan] We must not buy these naive formulations. We cannot impose our position on the United States, but, certainly, in my view, we must regard this sale with gravity, both from the substantive aspect of the direct significance and from the aspect of the trend it represents. It may be that this instance is not the end of these relations based on military aid to Arab countries. And, too, there is the matter of the weight or status of Israel and of its friends, which is undoubtedly less today in the United States and in this administration than it was during periods several years ago. [end recording]

YADIN ACCEPTS DMC POSITION ON WITHDRAWAL FROM GOVERNMENT

TA181444Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 18 May 78 p 2 TA

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister Professor Yadin tends to accept 'Amit's document, including its fourth clause dealing with the DMC's withdrawal from the government if the latter makes moves that would be harmful to the peace process.

DMC circles said yesterday that Professor Yadin tends to accept the document since it has become clear that the majority in the DMC Council supports Minister 'Amit's proposals. Professor Yadin feared a defeat of the opponents to the document in the DMC Council like that in the movement's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Prof Hillel Shoval reported Professor Yadin's position in talks with members of the DMC Council yesterday.

PRESS REPORTS DIFFER ON POSSIBLE NEW EGYPTIAN PLAN

18 May 'AL HAMISHMAR

TA182005Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 May 78 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Text] The United States informed Israel that Egypt has hinted that President as-Sadat is not going to submit counterproposals to the Israeli peace plan. This was discussed yesterday afternoon in a meeting between Prime Minister Begin and the U.S. ambassador in Israel, Samuel Lewis. The meeting was at Lewis' request and was held at the prime minister's house in Jerusalem.

At the meeting, which lasted 45 minutes, the U.S. ambassador handed the prime minister a message from U.S. President Carter. The two-page message was defined as very friendly and it seems that it is aimed at appeasing Israel about the aircraft deal and at reassuring it of the U.S. commitment to its security.

A government source told our correspondent yesterday, in reply to a question, that the message does not include any tone of apology but mainly manifestations of sympathy and friendliness to Israel in addition to expressing the hope for the continuation of peace efforts and their successful conclusion.

The prime minister expressed his regret about the Senate approval of the aircraft deal saying that Israel will consolidate its position and manner of reaction on this subject at the cabinet meeting on Sunday.

During the meeting the prime minister expressed wonder at President as-Sadat's remarks about returning the West Bank to Jordan and the Gaza Strip to Egypt in order "to make things easier for Begin." Ambassador Lewis promised him to check this remark and its degree of seriousness.

The prime minister reiterated his proposal that in order to promote the cause of peace the direct contacts with Egypt should be renewed, either through the work of the Political and Military committees or by any other means, provided only that no preconditions are presented.

The U.S. ambassador did not bring to Israel any Egyptian answer to the "new approach" suggested by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan during his visit in Washington. The gist of this suggestion is to hold negotiations about the substance of things and to postpone the declaration of principles to a later stage.

Ambassador Lewis expressed U.S. readiness, in addition to the readiness expressed in President Carter's message, to help bring the sides to the negotiating table. The ambassador did not carry with him any U.S. proposal, either regarding bringing the parties together or regarding the process of negotiating a solution to the disputed issues.

18 May YEDI'OT AHARONOT

TA182006Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 May 78 pp 1, 7 TA

[By Arye Zimmuqi]

[Excerpts] President as-Sadat is completing the wording of his reply to the Israeli peace plan and is making proposals of his own which will be submitted to Israel in the coming days. Israel was informed of this both through the Americans and in other ways.

In his proposals, President as-Sadat is repeating the idea he already presented in an interview to a U.S. paper about returning the Gaza Strip to Egypt's control and the West Bank to Jordan's until the fate of these territories is finally determined either through a referendum among the residents of these territories or by other means.

As can be recalled, Prime Minister Begin rejected this idea. In their talks with the Israeli representatives, the Americans hint that these latest Egyptian proposals should not be viewed as final.

It is being discussed in Jerusalem whether the Israeli Government must answer the questions presented to Foreign Minister Dayan during his talks in Washington about the autonomy plan for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The main question posed by the Americans is: What will happen after the 5 years of autonomy? The inclination in Jerusalem is to delay giving answers to the United States until Egypt expresses basic readiness to discuss the future of the West Bank.

Israel also expects a confirmation of the reports that As-Sadat will soon submit new proposals to Israel.

HA'AREZ ON HOW TO DEAL WITH CARTER'S INGRATITUDE

TA182028Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 18 May 78 p 9 TA

[By Avraham Schweizer]

[Text] This is the second time that Begin has come to the U.S. President's aid, although this time unknowingly. It happened the first time when he went to Washington last December in order to reintegrate the United States into the peace-making process from which it was pushed out when As-Sadat visited Jerusalem. The U.S. President was attacked fiercely then because of his hesitation regarding the process and Mr Begin arrived and crowned him as the architect of peace.

The same holds true on the matter of the aircraft. Israel's objection to their sale to Saudi Arabia and Egypt was dull or weak at the beginning of the struggle. This might have stemmed from a realistic assessment of the chances of success of the Israeli opposition to the supply of modern arms to these two confrontation countries. Yet, just when it was clear to all that the Senate would endorse the deal, the Israeli Government issued a clear-cut firm announcement opposing the deal, thus enhancing for the Arabs the value of the victory gained for them in the Senate by President Carter.

However, unlike regular politicians, Mr Carter does not know what gratitude means. Toward the end of 1977, a senior senator, a member of the President's party and one of his supporters, explained why Carter is not liked among the political community. The main reason for this: Mr Carter's ingratitude. Carter, the senator said, thinks that he deserves the support he gets. In other words, he does not view it as part of the give-and-take practice common and accepted in a regime built on a separation of powers. Therefore, he does not pay back, not even by expressing public appreciation to his supporters who helped him, sometimes even adopting positions unacceptable in their constituencies. If he behaves so with regard to Americans, then he surely behaves so toward foreigners.

From all this it can be concluded that Begin will certainly not get a word of gratitude even though he helped the President win public praise from the Saudis and As-Sadat. Mr Carter is like that and we had better remember we shall live with him for another 2 and 1/2 years at least. If the personality is important in politics, we must take into consideration the negative effect of the President (and his senior advisers) that will be felt in the future as it has been felt to date. Only fools believe that the only way to treat negative elements is to wear an angry countenance in front of them and to reply with a categorical no to everything they say. An example of a wrong reaction is the report that, as a sign of the government's dissatisfaction with the aircraft deal, it will not discuss on Sunday the questions asked by the President pertaining to the revival of the negotiations with Egypt. A demonstration of anger is not a political means if it lasts only a week. A positive conclusion to the negotiations with Egypt is undoubtedly desirable to the United States and all the more so to Israel. Most important of all: even if the answer is basically negative, it had better be said in the manner of "yes, but" as distinguished from the masculine "no" favored so much by Jabotinsky's disciples.

If we emerge intact from the struggle with the Arabs--a struggle whose conditions have worsened lately, especially since the U.S. policy was outlined by Mr Carter and his assistants--we shall not emerge from it under the leadership of an angry Jabotinsky or of the Gush Emunim dervishes. This struggle or war must be conducted with tricks, without frontal confrontation or knightly pomp. This form of struggle has a long tradition: This is how the people of Israel have survived since they were expelled from their land. Therefore, it is only fitting that the knights of this heritage chosen to rule us a year ago will draw lessons from it and base themselves on it. Quite a few of the lessons and principles of this heritage are applicable to the Israel of today.

AFGHANISTAN

FOREIGN MINISTER AMIN LEAVES FOR HAVANA NONALINED MEETING

JN181023Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] Hafezollah Amin, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left for Havana yesterday morning at the head of a delegation to participate in the Sixth Session of the Coordination Bureau of the nonalined countries now convening in Havana at the foreign ministers level.

He was seen off at Kabul International Airport by Babrak Karmal, deputy prime minister; Mohammad Aslam, deputy prime minister and minister of communications; a number of ministers; high-ranking officials; the Foreign Ministry secretary general; the head of the Revolutionary Council's office; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; the Governor of Kabul; and the Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

PAKISTANI ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE FROM HAQ TO TARAKI

JN181146Y Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 18 May 78 JN

[Text] It has been learned from the Foreign Ministry Information Directorate that on Tuesday evening His Excellency Ali Asad, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, conveyed a cordial message from Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, chief martial law administrator of Pakistan, to Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The letter expressed Pakistan's desire to promote neighborly relations and fraternal cooperation in all fields. The letter also expresses reassurance that the two countries can achieve logical results through positive and [word indistinct] talks.

AFP: DAUD'S FAMILY TO BE TRIED IN MILITARY COURT

OW182024Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1930 GMT 18 May 78 OW

[Text] Islamabad, May 18 (AFP)--Members of the overthrown Afghan regime, including family members of former Afghan President Mohammad Daud, will be tried by the recently constituted Revolutionary Military Court, Radio Kabul said today. The radio did not say how many were to be tried, but diplomatic sources here said that between 200 to 300 members of the dethroned Nadir dynasty had been arrested since the April 27 coup.

Quoting an official spokesman, Radio Kabul said "hirelings" of the Nadir and Daud families will also be tried by the Revolutionary Military Court.

The spokesman, according to the radio, claimed that apart from ex-President Daud himself, 10 members of his family were killed in the coup.

Diplomatic sources here said that the situation in Afghanistan continued to be peaceful except for some trouble in southeast Afghanistan.

TRIBAL LEADERS TELL TARAKI OF THEIR ALLEGIANCE

LD182040Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 18 May 78 LD/BK

[Text] At 0900 yesterday, Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], met with chiefs and representatives of the various tribes in Mangal at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council. During his conversation with them, he said:

The era of oppression and despotism of the Nadiri scions came to an end with the victorious revolution of 27 April 1978, and I promise you with complete confidence that we will wipe out all forms of [word indistinct], oppression and injustice inherited from the past.

The chairman of the Revolutionary Council added that the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party, for the past 15 years under the conditions of the previous despotic regime, had (?continued) its activities (?among) patriotic young people toward (?spreading cooperation and strengthening) in their revolutionary capability until they started the armed uprising of 27 April and wiped out [word indistinct], oppression and despotism.

Referring to the aims of the (?party) and Government of the DRA, Nur Mohammad Taraki said: The era is now behind us when government officials, contrary to the interests of the people, could do whatever they wished. The government of the democratic republic has set up party committees even in the most remote parts of the country in order to reach in the speediest manner, in accordance with the aims of the auspicious 27 April revolution, a solution to the problems of the working people and to supervise the work of the government's executive officials.

The chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister added: The DRA Government, which serves the working people, workers, peasants, shepherds, tradesmen and other deprived (?sections), is always at their service and has defended, and will continue to defend, their rights against internal and international reaction.

Taraki continued: Conditions in the past were such that the toiling and working elements in our country, because of their lack of [words indistinct] thanks to the oppressive and despotic government, were forced to undertake (?arduous) journeys abroad in order to obtain a morsel of bread for their families and relatives. Now that the DRA has been stabilized in our dear country, with the help of development plans and [words indistinct] every man in the country, it is now possible for all our compatriots who have gone abroad in search of work to return to our dear homeland and become a source of worthy and useful service.

Nur Mohammad Taraki referred to the (?baneful) and ill-intentioned propaganda of international and internal reaction and said: You, fraternal tribes, take care and bear in mind the (?interests of) unity, since these people harbor evil (?intentions) behind all this poisonous propaganda. There are a few reactionary individuals who are (?colluding) with our foreign enemies and are disseminating poisonous propaganda against our democratic republic. You and the rest of the people of Afghanistan are duty bound to struggle, shoulder to shoulder with the DRA, against the sworn enemies of the people of this country for the welfare, happiness and good fortune of the people of Afghanistan and for the honor and pride of our beloved homeland.

I remind you once again that the government is yours and not your master, but rather your servant. We are for the [word indistinct] of the children of the Afghan people, and we feel in all our being your sorrows and tribulations. And we assure you that, within the limits of our capability, we will not forgo any service or self-sacrifice towards realizing the demands of the noble working people of the country and towards the abolition of all manners of injustice.

Immediately after this, two Mangal chieftains, on behalf of (?their tribes), expressed their sincere revolutionary congratulations to the general secretary of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister and to the comrades of the Revolutionary Council, and promised solidarity and self-sacrifice toward realizing the progressive and revolutionary aims of the DRA Government and the chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister.

They added: The opportunity for the foreign and internal enemies to turn the loyal, patriotic people of Mangal into their tools does not exist. They said: With our blood, possessions and lives we are ready to defend the DRA and this (?we will prove).

The rally came to a close with the slogans: "Long live the chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister!" "Long live the DRA!" And [words indistinct].

TARAKI ADDRESSES CITIZENS ON RESULTS OF REVOLUTION

JN1711422 Kabul in Arabic to the Arab World 1000 GMT 17 May 78 JN

[Text] Nur Mohammad Taraki, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, met at [time indistinct] the night before last with several leading tribal chieftains of (Asmar Kheyl), (Khajazi), (Foga Kheyl), and [names indistinct]. Minister of Border Affairs Nezamoddin Tahzib attended. The meeting took place at the Revolutionary Council headquarters.

Taraki spoke to them about the great and historic achievements accomplished by the Afghan people as a result of the nationalist [wordindistinct] revolution. He discussed, within the context of this great victory, the future of the country and the great Afghan people.

Those attending expressed their support of the pleasure with these statements. Three tribal representatives presented their profound and sincere congratulations to the president of the Revolutionary Council, his deputy and the members of the government, and implored God for further victories by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

TARAKI ADDRESSES GHORJESTAN DELEGATION

LD161316Y Kabul in English to Europe 1130 GMT 16 May 78 LD

[Text] Nur Mohammad Taraki, the president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, received another delegation of our countrymen from Hazharah of Ghorjestan at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Council yesterday morning. The president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] expressed his gladness at meeting them and, during the meeting with the Ghorjestan countrymen, explained the aims of the national and democratic revolution of 27 April and the establishment of the DRA.

A Bakhtar correspondent reports that Nur Mohammad Taraki explained the objectives of the revolution and said that now that we are on the threshold of a real change; I assure you, brothers, that henceforth our country will adopt the path of patriotism and struggle against prejudices and discrimination in all forms, and it will fight against every kind of injustice, cruelty, oppression and inequality.

The president of the Revolutionary Council said: The DRA will work tirelessly for the objectives and plans of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan, for the suffering people of the country who have lived under oppression for long years [words indistinct] so that our countrymen may live in a progressive and prosperous Afghanistan in an atmosphere of friendship, equality, support and unity which has been shown by different nationalities in the country with their democratic republic. He expressed the hope that his good wishes would be conveyed to the people wherever they may be.

The delegation, in reply, expressed their pleasure with the patriotic statements of the president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister and for meetings with them. They again offered their full cooperation and selflessness for the attainment of the revolutionary aspirations.

PAKISTAN

HAQ HOPES FOR NORMAL RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN

BK181625Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 May 78 BK

[Excerpts] Talking to newsmen at Peshawar airport before his departure for Rawalpindi, the chief martial law administrator said he would announce some important decisions within a week or so, the most important being measures to introduce the Islamic system in the country. Asked about progress in connection with the formation of a national government, he said a great deal of discussion on this matter had already taken place. He said the nation would hear his decision on this issue soon.

About Afghanistan, the chief martial law administrator told newsmen that his government wants to resume relations with Afghanistan from the point where they were in the recent past. He said that there are very encouraging signs so far and that we can build on them. He added that his government was already in touch with the Afghan Government through diplomatic or other channels.

Earlier, during a meeting with tribal leaders, the chief martial law administrator described the recent change in Afghanistan as an internal matter of that country. He also expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries will continue to be good for their mutual benefit.

AFP: FORMER MINISTER OF STATE RECEIVES JAIL TERM

BK181713Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1604 GMT 18 May 78 BK

[Text] Rawalpindi, May 18 (AFP)--Mairaj Mohammad Khan, a leftist politician and former minister of state, was sentenced to 1 year's imprisonment with hard labour by a summary military court here today.

The court ruled that Khan had violated a martial law ban on political activity. He was arrested last Tuesday following a talk with newsmen in which he attacked the government, particularly its policy towards the press.

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